

FIRST
SECTION
...
Thursday,
January 27,
2005

CRAWFORD COUNTY AVALANCHE

Publishing
In Grayling
Since 1879
...
50¢

Emil Kraus named Citizen of the Year

by Dan Sanderson
Staff Writer

A Grayling businessman who served the community in just about every conceivable capacity was honored last week.

Emil Kraus was presented the 2004 Citizen of the Year award at the Grayling Regional Chamber of Commerce annual Awards Night last Thursday.

"I am proud and honored," Kraus said about the recognition.

Kraus was born in Grayling in 1917. He graduated from Grayling High School in 1934 and was the president of his class. Kraus attended the University of Detroit, where he was also the president of his class. He then earned his law degree from the University of Michigan.

Kraus began his law career working for the Massachusetts Bond and Insurance Company in Detroit. He held that job for about a year, then enlisted in the military. Kraus graduated from the United States Coast Guard in 1942, and served as an executive officer on the Coast Guard Cutter Marion. The ship was charged for patrolling the Atlantic Ocean for enemy ships and submarines during World War II. Kraus obtained the rank of lieutenant senior grade.

Kraus married his first wife, Amelia, in 1945. The couple had two daughters, Mary and Amy. Continued on Page 12A

See "EMIL KRAUS..."



Photos by Dan Sanderson

(Above) Emil Kraus was presented the 2004 Citizen of the Year award at the Grayling Regional Chamber of Commerce annual Awards Night last Thursday. (Left) Kay Cosgray, accepts the Athena Award from Brad Scheer, the owner of Scheer Motors, at the Grayling Regional Chamber of Commerce annual Awards Night held last Thursday as former award recipients look on. Scheer Motors is the sponsor for the Athena award.

Departure ceremony slated for 1071st

by Dan Sanderson
Staff Writer

Grayling residents and business owners are urged to attend a rally and to display yellow ribbons to support the men and women of the 1071st Maintenance Company, who will be leaving the community Monday for an eventual mission in Iraq.

A departure ceremony will be held 1 p.m. Saturday for the 1071st Maintenance Company in Building Three at Camp Grayling.

The 1071st Maintenance Company is being mobilized for the third rotation of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The 1071st includes metal workers, machinists, crane operators, welders and mechanics who specialize in the repair of military vehicles, heavy armor and weapons. Several members of the unit work at the Maneuver Area Training Equipment Site located on North Down River Road, where equipment used by the National Guard is repaired and maintained.

About 178 men and women, many who live in the Grayling area, will take part in training in Texas prior to departing for Iraq.

Continued on Page 12A
See "DEPARTURE..."

DDA board takes input on proposed plans

by Dan Sanderson
Staff Writer

Grayling Downtown Development Authority (DDA) officials were urged Monday to work closely with other economic development initiatives in order to fill empty store fronts.

About 40 people attended a public forum Monday at the Grayling City Hall in order to give input on the proposed plans for downtown.

A DDA is established through a state program to halt declining property values and to promote economic development within the district.

Klaus Heinert, a project coordinator from the city's engineering and planning firm who has been working with local officials on the DDA plans, said initial projects would focus on enhancing the main corridors coming into downtown.

A common theme raised by residents was to work with county and township officials such as the Crawford County Economic Development Partnership to fill vacant buildings downtown, which is a goal of the DDA.

"Ultimately, it has to be private enterprise that has to come in to do this," said John Sloan, a member of the Crawford County

Economic Development Partnership Board.

Mary Fox, a DDA Board member and business director for Mercy Hospital, said she hoped that a director which will soon be hired by the Economic Development Partnership would focus on the downtown since the city and hospital are helping fund the position.

"We just need to find a way to shift that focus to be synergetic with this plan because we don't have the money for an additional director," Fox said.

Grayling City Manager Allen Lowe said officials would likely pursue economic development initiatives as the DDA evolves and gains momentum.

"We're going to work to make the downtown look nice, that was the charge given to us by the city council," Lowe said.

Dave Stephenson, chairman of the Crawford County Board of Commissioners, also stressed that renovating or moving the county building out of downtown area should be considered by city officials.

"It may throw what you're working on out in left field so we need to know that," Stephenson

Continued on Page 12A

See "DDA BOARD..."

Pinewood Derby brings out the race fan in everyone



Photo by Josh Greenberg

A group of anxious onlookers watch a close race during the Cub Scout Pack #3993 annual Pinewood Derby on Saturday, January 22. Racing lasted the whole morning and some of the afternoon, and there was even an open division for races of all ages. The 2005 Pinewood Derby Judges' Choices are: Best Design - Josh Sass, Most Unique - Mitchell Thompson, Most Colorful - Edward Everson, Best Scout Car - Xavier Morrisette, Best Scout and Adult Car - Joseph Greenway, Best Non-Car Theme - Raymond Morrisette, and Judges Choice - Zachary Teal.

Crawford County Avalanche

Vol 127 No 121 PAGES 2 SECTIONS
PO Box 190 Grayling, MI 49738 (989) 315-6511

County board doles out environmental grants 2A
Winter Fun Days to be held in February..... 3A
Local team wins fifth Tip Up Town title 1B
Wrestling team defeats Hale, Pinconning 3B
JV basketball team defeats Elks 40-34 4B

Business Directory 8-10A
Church Directory 6A
Classifieds 8-11B
Facts & Features 7B

Legal Notices 5-6B
Opinions 4A
Sports & Rec .. 1-5B, 12B
Obituaries 6A

Your homeowners policy comes with something extra...

Real people. Hometown people who will help you through the details of buying insurance or making a claim. While some insurance companies are no more than an 800 number and a voice mail menu, we're here to help in good times and in bad-year after year.



L-R: Dawn McGee, Jeanne Bulmer & Andrea Leesh

Auto-Owners Insurance
Life Home Car Business
The "No Pushover" Agent

GRAYLING INSURANCE AGENCY (989) 348-2851
2375 S. I-75 Business Loop Grayling
Located next to Century 21 • Across from Glen's

SPACAPSULE



Introducing the worlds most intelligently designed Dry water massage. Your fully clothed body doesn't get wet. You experience a sense of weightlessness as a myriad of traveling acupressure jets pulsate warm water over your body.
PUBLIC WELCOME - YOU HAVE TO SEE IT TO BELIEVE IT.

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE

At The Pointe North Motel of Grayling on
I-75 Bus. Loop Corner of North Down River Rd.
989-348-5950

Argentinian to depart after fun, but cold, visit

by Josh Greenberg
Staff Writer

It's a bit colder than Florencia Goldar is used to. In fact, in her home country, she could be playing tennis or wakeboarding or just stroll around without a hat, mittens or even a long-sleeved shirt.

"I like the people here. They are very friendly. But the weather for me is too cold," she said.

The 19 year-old Argentinian, who is visiting her brother Diego, a Rotary Exchange student, has made the most of her one and half month stay in the States.

Diego and his host, Mike Shearer, met Florencia in Orlando and went to Disney World. Florencia said that a lot of people from back home go to Disney World.

"We know a lot about America back home. We watch a lot of your television shows and listen to your music," she said.

Since her arrival, Florencia has toured around Traverse City and Gaylord, gone skiing at Boyne Mountain, built a snowman, and visited Crawford AuSable high school and middle school Spanish classes.

"It was very fun because the students asked a lot of questions...two of the Spanish teachers are taking me shopping this weekend," she said.

In the classes, Florencia and the teacher would converse in Spanish. Students had the opportunity to ask questions about her culture. According to high school teacher Michelle Compo, Goldar's visits gave her a chance to meet students close to her age.

Middle school Spanish teacher

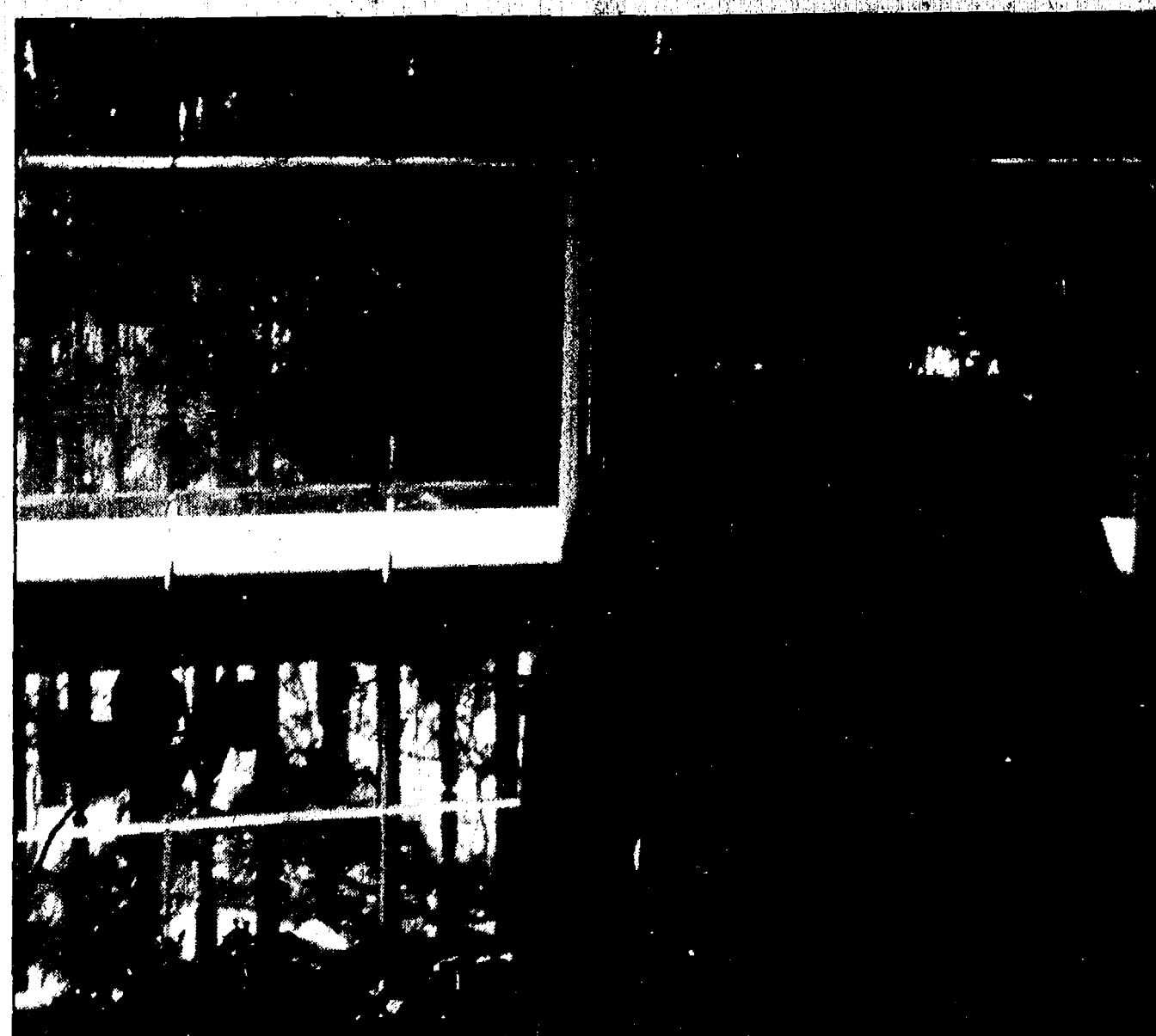


Photo by Josh Greenberg

Florencia Goldar is a 19 year-old student at the University of Buenos Aires. She is in Grayling to visit her younger brother Diego.

Samara Sabin said that Goldar was very fluent in English. Most of Sabin's students took a crack at asking difficult questions in Spanish, for a little extra credit.

"She had such a good attitude, and she could crack jokes in English. It's hard to crack jokes in another language," Sabin said.

Florencia, who began learning English in Argentina when she was eight years old, said that it's easiest to learn the language when everyone around you

speaks it.

"For me, being here is the only way to learn English. I had seven or eight years of English, but I came here and I can't believe how much Diego has learned," she said.

Diego has been here since August 23, 2004.

Both Florencia and Diego have been able to communicate with friends back home on Shearer's computer, which has a video camera and microphone set-up,

allowing instant, face-to-face communication. Diego is Shearer's fourth foreign exchange student privy to this set-up.

Florencia is in her third year of college at the University of Buenos Aires, where she is majoring in agricultural engineering. She returns home Saturday, January 22.

"It was good to see Diego, but now I miss my friends and family back home," she said.

County board doles out environmental grants

by Dan Sanderson
Staff Writer

County officials are taking aim at scrap tires, Eurasian milfoil and gypsy moths.

The Crawford County Board

of Commissioners last week approved environmental grants for local projects.

The first grant for \$5,000 was awarded to the county's six townships and City of Grayling for a scrap tire collection day, which has tentatively been slated to be held on June 18.

The townships and the city will collectively contribute \$5,000 to match the grant.

Beaver Creek Township Supervisor Lee Riley said the Weyerhaeuser Plant, which was recognized with the state's Clean Corporate Citizen award last year for environmental stewardship, may also assist with financial and volunteer support.

Last year, the officials were inundated with between 5,000 to 6,000 scrap tires for the inaugural scrap tire collection day. Officials had to turn away some residents because there was no time or resources available to remove some tires left on the rim, Riley said.

Riley said he was spurred to submit the grant application for county environmental funds when a township resident had to deal with dozens of old tires on his property that he did not know were located on the land because he purchased the property in the

winter time. He hopes that other property owners and auto parts yards can get rid of unwanted tires and that tires left in the forests can be removed.

"We want to finish the job as much as we can, so this is one more push toward that," Riley said.

The County Board awarded a second \$3,000 grant to Grayling Township and the Lake Margrethe Property Owners Association for an ongoing Eurasian milfoil control project.

Eurasian milfoil is a fast-growing invasive water plant that can grow into thick mats and eventually ruin boating, fishing and swimming.

Two years ago, the lake association treated about 30 acres of the lake for milfoil. Last year, 19 acres of the lake were treated to keep the weeds under control and 15 acres will be targeted this year.

"They caught the Eurasian milfoil before it became a huge problem so the cost is fairly minimal and we're just thrilled that the county has been willing to help out with this," said Grayling Township Supervisor Terry Wright.

The National Guard has pledged funds and technical assistance to help map the milfoil since one third of Lake Margrethe's lake frontage is part of Camp Grayling.

"We certainly appreciate that all governmental entities have taken to heart the quality of Lake Margrethe," said Gary

McConnell, a lake association member who oversees the milfoil eradication efforts.

Finally, Bruce Patrick, the county environmental monitor, said he only received eight calls since last fall regarding a proposed county-wide gypsy moth control program.

Patrick said that most complaints came from Lake Margrethe, AuSable Trail and near Pere Cheney where large stands of oak trees are located.

"A lot of that is state land," Patrick said. "The median on I-75 got hit pretty hard last year and you could really see it."

Patrick said that Howard Taylor, the owner of Wellington Farms, has volunteered to remain as the coordinator who would assist property owners who want to have their property sprayed for gypsy moths.

"I don't think there's enough of a problem for a full county-wide program, which can get rather involved," Patrick said.

Patrick said Lake Margrethe Association members would continue to collect funds for spraying and residents in other areas of the county would conduct similar fund drives.

County officials will seek financial assistance from the Michigan Department of Agriculture to address the gypsy moths situation.

"Rather than the property owners doing it privately we can still look to get a grant," said County Commissioner Shelley Pinkelman.

Kiwanis Club marks 70 years

Kiwanis Club of Grayling marked 70 years of club service Tuesday evening, January 18, 2005, with a dinner at the Ole Barn. Attending were local members, former presidents of the club and guests. Following the social hour, Al Johnston, current president, introduced guests. Coming the longest distance was Dwight Knasel, president for two years in 1987-89, and his wife, of Mackinaw City. Other former presidents in attendance were Valerie Johnston, Lynn McConnell, Bob McIntosh, Tammie Moxham, Dale French, Bob Bovee and representing her husband, Lee Bresmon, Betty Bresmon. Former member Carl Hatfield and his wife, Rose, were

sung to as they were celebrating their 47th wedding anniversary.

Entertaining during dinner was Lacy Hartzell, a Kalkaska High School student, who sang. After dinner, Fay Bovee gave a short history of the club which originated in January 1935 under the leadership of Dr. Clarence G. Clippert.

Warren Hatfield, former member, was recognized as having contributed 1,035,000 can top tabs to Kiwanis and other organizations. Bob Bovee, who has been a member since 1951, was surprised with a presentation from the club to a Life Membership to the Kiwanis International.

Rowe Incorporated of Flint, Michigan has purchased Myers Land Survey Company, Inc.

ROWE employs 130+ professionals providing land and aerial surveying, civil engineering, planning, landscape architecture and wetland consultation services to private and governmental clients. Additional offices are located in Mt. Pleasant and Lapeer, MI.

Myers Land Survey Company, Inc. serving mainly private clients in the Roscommon County, Crawford County and surrounding areas, was founded by Marvin E. Myers, PS in 1986. Marvin, who is well known in the area and is also, the Roscommon County Remonumentation Representative and Crawford County Remonumentation Representative, as well as a professor at Ferris State University, will remain with the company along with his wife, Rosalie and Matt Ashton.

The firm will continue as Myers Land Survey Company with the same locations and phone numbers. The more noticeable change will be the increase in turnaround time for services and capacity for providing additional services to clients. For further information contact Marvin E. Myers, PS or John H. Rauser, PS at 989-821-9762 or 989-348-4036.



Pictured L-R: Marvin E. Myers PS & John Matonich, PS and CEO Rowe Inc.

So much more than lawn and garden tractors!

- 18HP / 24HP
- 3-cylinder diesel
- 4WD
- Hydrostatic Transmission
- Rear and Mid PTO
- Power Steering
- Full range of implements in stock

TZ18DA
\$8,195
Tractor only
Plus tax



NEW HOLLAND

NEW HOLLAND TZ18DA/TZ24DA

TZ24DA
\$8,795
Tractor only
Plus tax



FREE DELIVERY

These tractors will mow, till, lift, load, sweep, scrape and so much more!
LOW FINANCING NOW AVAILABLE!!

GINOP SALES Inc.

When you think tractors...

www.ginopsales.com

At 68 • Alanson

231-548-2272

800-344-4667

On M 72 • Williamsburg

231-267-5400

800-304-4667

On M 32 • Hillman

989-742-7500

877-334-4667

ISSUES AND OPINIONS



ALMANACK

by Richard Milliman

Battle over education job is nothing new

SO GOVERNOR Jennifer Granholm is hip-deep in a battle over the job as state superintendent of public instruction.

Tom Watkins holds the superintendency (at the time of this writing, anyhow), and the governor wants someone else in the job... nobody in particular, apparently, but she doesn't want Mr. Watkins any more.

He's not doing a good job, she claims. Am too, Mr. Watkins responds, at least under the circumstances. He claims his job is hampered by repeated cuts in state funding for education at all levels forced upon schools by the way the governor and the legislature have been balancing budgets for the past few years. It's been cut, cut, cut for schools.

He's got a point there.

BATTLES OVER the school superintendent job are not rare in recent years.

Gov. John Engler repeatedly tussled with the elected state board of education

over control of schools, helping to throw out one incumbent he didn't want a few years back, and getting his own man appointed.

Gov. Granholm might note that Mr. Engler also tried but failed to dump Tom Watkins after he was appointed in 2001 by a state education board controlled by Democrats.

Mr. Watkins was part of the Democratic administration with Gov. James Blanchard as deputy chief of staff and then mental health director. He's completing his third year in the Granholm administration. Clearly Mr. Watkins is a political survivor.

The job pays \$168,300 a year. Mr. Watkins claims he signed a contract renewal with the board earlier in January, so he's set for 2005. Ms. Granholm questions the agreement's validity because it was not approved by the full board of education.

Personally I don't know if Tom Watkins is doing a good job, or is not.

It's unclear how this problem will be settled. My guess is that the governor will get her way and sooner or later Mr. Watkins will leave, but it will cost taxpayers some money through a settlement.

* * *

AT THE BASE of this whole dispute and others which have preceded it is the 1963 Michigan state constitution.

Under the state constitution, it's not the governor's call. Mr. Watkins was hired by the elected state board of education, and only the state board can fire him. He's responsible to the state board of education, not the governor.

At the time of this writing, the eight-member board is split down the middle pro-Watkins and anti-Watkins, according to most published reports. The board, incidentally, has a 5-3 Democratic edge, so it's not strictly partisan.

The governor, on the other hand, certainly is at least the figurehead for all

state government, including schools, and should be responsible for executive functions of state government, including schools. The public thinks he/she already is.

So why does not the governor appoint the top official in the schools department, just as every other executive department head is appointed -- except the attorney general and secretary state, who are elected and separate, under the state constitution?

However, if the state superintendent should be appointed by and beholden to the governor, then of what use is an elected state board of education, which would have the power of direct election by the voters but no genuine responsibilities and no teeth to carry out its wishes?

* * *

CONTROL OF EDUCATION at the state level in Michigan is the victim of yet another constitutional malfunction.

Maybe it's time to inspect once more all aspects of government under our 42-

year old state constitution with a new constitutional convention.

Maybe it's time to correct several problems that plague efficient operation of state government, for example... our convoluted system of electing judges... our outmoded and malfunctioning tax and revenue structure... our bloated and expensive full time legislative system... our easily rigged and unfair systems of apportionment... multiplicity and overlapping of our local governmental units which complicate and frequently hinder rational and effective delivery of public services close to where we live.

could go on, but you get my drift. Maybe it's time for an overall overhaul.

#

Richard Milliman is a veteran newspaperman, and a contributing columnist to several Michigan newspapers.

VIEWPOINT

by Sharon Priebe, President
Animal Shelter of Crawford County

As 2004 rolls into 2005 we sometimes need to ponder on all that's gone on over the last several years. The Animal Shelter of Crawford County has sure had some good friends and great animals pass through its doors.

The Crawford County Commissioners continue to push through the land exchange by the Crawford County fair grounds and just as important the Crawford County Road Commissioners voted to extend the lease for another two years so we can get ready for the move. They knew that we could not ask for grants or any kind of financial help without the land deal being settled.

It takes a community with a big heart to think of the animals and what is best for them.

Years ago the accepted standard was to take animals in and then euthanize them in seven days. As we progress as a society it becomes increasingly more important to take responsibility for ourselves, our land and the animals we take into our lives.

The recent world disasters have reinforced the knowledge that all life is precious. It is so heart warming to look back at the statistics on the dogs and know that tremendous progress has been made and the number of shelter dogs has dropped due to personal responsibility and the

ongoing spaying and neutering of our "best friends."

The next big step is to get our cat population headed in the same direction. It takes time and effort by volunteers and animal lovers of all kinds to do the right thing and keep pushing for a better world.

The Road Commission and the Board of Commissioners as well as the citizens of Crawford County certainly must know that in their hearts. They know that we are not finished with this project as they continue to support and help and bless us with their kindness.

Even friends outside of Crawford County help with the push for the funds to build a better shelter. One such event is the snowmobile ride from the Ole Barn on January 29 with great support from Greg and Kathy and is organized and sponsored by Mary Becker and Washington Mortgage.

Another is the Durango raffle on July 24 with Brad Scheer stepping up to be counted as a supporter with his very generous deal on the vehicle. And so it goes, a step at a time.

So as you get ready for a beautiful spring think of their help as another big step for humans in the continuing struggle to make this a truly wonderful world for our animals.

The opinions expressed in the letters and columns on this page are solely those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of *The Crawford County Avalanche*.

EDITOR

What's past is past

To the editor:

I would like to address a letter published in the *Avalanche* on January 20, 2005 from Anita Mack, headline "Library board members need to stop bickering."

As the newest member of the Crawford County Library Board of Trustees, I was quite surprised by what Ms. Mack had to say. This letter is written from my own thoughts and not under the direction of the Library Board.

Since coming on board, I have attended every meeting: two in November, two in December and two in January. Ms. Mack has not been in attendance at any of these meetings, so I can't imagine how she can state, or even imply, she has witnessed bickering amongst board members.

I will agree, there has been discussion and there has been debate, none of which should be misconstrued as bickering.

Ms. Mack also stated, "Presently they (board members) are constantly renegeing on a contract to keep the Beaver Creek Township Library up and running permanently, even though the Library millage passed, of which part of it was to keep this library open and servicing the community."

Let me assure the good citizens of Crawford County and Beaver Creek Township, there has been no renegeing. By a unanimous vote, which would intimate again no "bickering," the board decided it needed a closer look at that branch library's needs and the demands of the community. Research has been performed and a proposed contract agreement has been developed that coincidentally addresses many of Ms. Mack's concerns. That contract will be offered at the next Beaver Creek

Board of Trustees meeting. It is my hope that the citizens of Beaver Creek will show more interest in their library as usage statistics prove the interest has been very low.

Addressing Ms. Mack's point regarding the passage of the operating millage in August 2004, she may be a bit confused. Even with the new funding, it is the Library Board's obligation and duty to see to it your tax dollars are spent wisely. Millage dollars should not be looked upon as a windfall, but as an assurance that even in tough times the library system will be, at the least, sustained. This very important funding is sort of an insurance policy that no matter what happens to state funding, or if penal fine revenues decrease, our library services will not suffer. It should never be considered reason for a spending spree,

but spent with prudence and invested wisely in our libraries.

The passage of the millage also stopped the depletion of the building fund which needs to be reserved for future expansion, equipment needs and other capital improvements.

The ideal situation would be that funding would stay consistent from all sources, but we do not have that luxury at this time.

In conclusion, let me state I have had nothing but a positive experience working with the board, the library director and staff thus far and I can't see any reason why this should change anytime soon. What's past is past and should be left far behind.

Cheryll Ruley
Grayling

On the Home Front

by James Kehr

There's soldiers here in Grayling
They've got their bags all packed
They're leaving from Camp Grayling
and headed for Iraq

They'll leave this frozen tundra
they're headed for the sand
their mission will be maintenance
at least that is the plan.

To keep the trucks and tanks they fix

rolling on their way
no one has a clue right now
how long they'll have to stay

We can always say a prayer or two
for those that have to go
I'm sure they'd rather stay right here
in the tundra with the snow

But off they go to fight the war
the wheels they must keep turning

just know that we are proud of you
and we'll keep the home fires burning

Your families will be safe and warm
while you do what you do
the people from the tundra
are awfully proud of you.

A heart felt thanks to you.
From the folks of the frozen tundra

CRAWFORD COUNTY
AVALANCHE
P.O. Box 490, Grayling, MI 49738 • 800-348-6844 • FAX 980-348-6806

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| Jennifer Lawe Composition | Linda Golinick General Manager | Debbie St. Germain Advertising Sales |
| Annie Blair Composition | Caleb Casey Senior Staff Writer | Pam Engel Advertising Sales |
| April Gugin Composition | Dan Sanderson Staff Writer | Ruth Biggar Business Office |
| | Josh Greenberg Staff Writer | Shannon Terry Business Office |

Published by Crawford County Avalanche, Inc., Ann Marie Milliman, president.
Member of the Michigan Press Association and the National Newspaper Association.
All rights reserved. Copyright The Crawford County Avalanche. This content may not be archived,
retransmitted, saved in a database, or used for any commercial purpose without the express written
permission of The Crawford County Avalanche.
USPS 136-860. Entered as Periodicals at the Post Office at Grayling, MI 49738 under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1919.
Published each Tuesday at 102 W. Michigan Avenue, Grayling, MI 49738. For changing address, send US Post Office Form
3579 to the Crawford County Avalanche, P.O. Box 490, Grayling, MI 49738.
Subscription Rates: One year permanent subscription in Crawford, Roscommon, Kalkaska, Otsego, and
Oscoda counties, \$20.00; Seasonal address changes add \$4.00; One year non-local, outside above counties,
\$30.00; Foreign Countries, \$60.00; Senior Citizen discount (60 or older) \$2.00 off any of the above rates.
Subscriptions rates are non-refundable.
Check us out on the Internet at www.avalanche.townnews.com

AVALANCHE DEADLINES

Community Briefs items submitted to *The Avalanche* must be turned in to the office by Monday noon, to appear in that week's issue.

Photographs must be turned in to the office by noon on Friday for consideration in the next issue.

News items and letters should be submitted on 8 1/2-x-11 inch paper, typed, and double-spaced.

Handwritten items must also have ample space between each line; on lined paper use every other line.

Classified ads by the word must be turned in by Tuesday noon and have to be paid for in advance or they will not be published.

Classified display ads must be turned in by Monday noon.

Full page, half page, or color display ads must be turned in by Thursday at 5 p.m.

The deadline for all display ads smaller than a half page is Friday at 5 p.m.

Letters to the Editor

Your views are welcome on the Opinion Page. Letters may be typed or handwritten, but please double-space or use every other line and limit to 500 words.

Every letter must be signed and an address and telephone number must be included to be considered for publication. Letters will not be published without the author's name. Telephone numbers are not published.

All letters are subject to editing and will be printed as space allows.

Deadline for submission of letters to the editor is Friday at noon for consideration for publication in the following week's paper.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

Garage sale donations are being accepted

Project Graduation has scheduled its annual garage sale for March 12 and 13. They are accepting non-clothing donations for this fundraiser. Please contact Michelle Barber at 348-1772 or Sue McNally at 348-2324 to arrange a drop off.

Historical Society holds monthly meeting

The Board of Directors of the Crawford County Historical Society will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, February 1, at 7 p.m. at the Grayling City Hall. Meetings are open to members and the general public. Board meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month, February through November.

Multiple Sclerosis support group to meet

A Multiple Sclerosis Support Group will meet on Tuesday, February 8, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., at Markey Baptist Church, 4736 Flint Road, Roscommon. The support group will meet the second Tuesday of every month. For information or directions, call Erin at 989-366-1864. Refreshments provided.

GPA dinner show presents The Merling Trio

The Grayling Promotional Association Cultural Events program presents The Merling Trio dinner show on Thursday, January 27, at the Holiday Inn. Doors open at 6 p.m. and dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. with the concert immediately following. Tickets cost \$27.50, which includes dinner, tax and tip, and are available at Flowers by Josie, the Grayling Chamber of Commerce or call 989-348-7146.

HELP center accepting paper goods

February is the annual paper drive at the Crawford County Christian HELP Center. Paper donations such as: toilet paper, facial tissue and paper towels can be dropped off at the center or any church.

Church hosts all-you-can-eat luncheon

Michelson Memorial United Methodist Church, on Michigan Avenue in Grayling, will host an all-you-can-eat luncheon of soup, sandwich, salad and dessert on Thursday, February 3, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The cost is \$5 per person and take-out orders will be available. Everyone is welcome.

American Legion Auxiliary to hold meeting

The American Legion Auxiliary will hold its regular meeting at the American Legion Hall, in Grayling, on February 2, at 3:30 p.m.

Snowmobile Fun Run this Saturday

The Snowmobile Fun Run to benefit the Animal Shelter of Crawford County will be held Saturday, January 29. Entry fee is a donation of \$25 per person and includes commemorative three meals, t-shirt, calendar and other goodies. Registration is at 8 a.m. at The Ole Barn. Dinner, dancing and prizes follows the run at The Ole Barn. Those who do not ride the trails are welcome to participate in their own vehicle on main roads, but must also be registered. For more information, call Cheryl at (989) 348-1429.

Hospice of Michigan hosts first annual snowmobile safari

Hospice of Michigan will hold a snowmobile fundraising event, Saturday, February 5. The Snowmobile safari is a ride that will begin in both Gaylord and Alpena. Participants will ride along the state trails meeting in Atlanta for lunch. A tax-deductible donation of \$40 for single and \$70 for passenger includes event t-shirt and lunch.

"We wanted to have a winter fundraising event that would allow us to enjoy the outdoors and inform a variety of people about the benefits of hospice services," said Beth Konieczny, Marketing/Community Development Representative for Hospice of Michigan. "There are sponsorship opportunities for businesses and we'll have prizes along the way."

The money raised will help support Hospice of Michigan's open access policy-caring for those people suffering with a life limiting illness and supporting their families. For more information call Konieczny at 989-732-2151 or email to bkoniecz@hom.org

GHS registration process begins

The registration process for selecting courses for the 2005-2006 school year will begin February 1, according to Mrs. Pummell, Grayling High School Principal. Juniors will meet with the high school counselors, department heads and administration and receive their registration materials on Tuesday, February 1, during second hour. Sophomores will do the same on Monday, February 7, and freshman will have their registration meeting on Friday, February 11. Eighth grade students will be visiting the high school on Tuesday, February 13 to receive their registration materials and to tour the high school. A parent

information meeting will be held in the Joseph Stripe Auditorium at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, February 11, this is primarily for the parents of eighth graders, but open to any interested parents.

Staff will be assisting students by making recommendations regarding the most appropriate individual course selections. Parents of incoming freshman with questions are encouraged to contact Mrs. Metiva, the middle school counselor.

Parents of present high school students may contact their child's counselor, Mrs. Fredrick, 344-3510 or Mrs. Thompson, 344-3511, if they have any questions.

RAFFLE WINNERS

Grayling Youth Booster Club

The 50/50 raffle winners for January 23 - of \$25 each: Mike Higgins, Brenda Grandmaison, Pat Benardo, and George Wolfe.

Grayling Lions Club

The Lions Club Lucky 13 raffle winner of \$100 for week three is Larkin Baker of

Frederic.

Project Graduation

The "Lucky 300 Club" raffle winners for the weeks of December 19 - Mel Lucksted; December 26 - Ruth Pilon; January 2 - Jodi Potter; and January 9 - Paige Allen.

A special Valentine show at Kirtland

Actors Renee Taylor and Joe Bologna present a wonderful Valentine to Kirtland Center for the Performing Arts audiences two hours of almost non-stop laughter.

The husband and wife, who are veteran actors of television theatre, and the silver screen, will present "If You Ever Leave Me... I'm Going With You" at the Kirtland Center for the Performing Arts on the campus of Kirtland Community College on February 12 at 8 p.m.

This two-person play about their 35-year marriage is a hilarious collage of monologues, stand-up, TV and movie clips, home movies and scenes from various Broadway plays they've written including "Acts of Love and Other Comedies," "Bermuda Avenue Triangle" and "Bedrooms."

Renee Taylor comes equipped with her nasal Bronx voice that so many know from her role as

Sylvia Fine, Fran Drescher's mother on TV's "The Nanny." Her motion picture debut was in Jerry Lewis' *The Errand Boy*, she has had starring roles in *The Last Of The Red Hot Lovers* with Alan Atkin, Elaine Mays' *A New Leaf* with Walter Matthau, *The Detective* starring Frank Sinatra *Lovesick* starring Dudley Moore, and *Love Sex and Marriage* starring Marlo Thomas and Charles Grodin.

Mr. Bologna's acting career feature film credits include: *My Favorite Year*, *The Woman In Red*, *Blame It On Rio*, *Chapter Two*, *Honor Thy Father*, *Coupe de Ville*, *Cops and Robbers*, *Mixed Company* and *The Big Bus*. He also played Adam Sandler's father in the box office hit *Big Daddy*.

For further information or to order tickets contact the Kirtland Ticket office at 989-275-6777 or order tickets online at www.kirtland.edu/kepa

SBA disaster loans available in northern Michigan

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) announced that federal disaster loans are available to small, non-farm, agricultural-dependent businesses in the counties of Antrim, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Clare, Crawford, Gladwin, Gratiot, Isabella, Kalkaska, Lake, Mecosta, Midland, Montcalm, Montmorency, Newaygo, Osceola, Oscoda and Otsego in the state of Michigan.

"SBA's disaster declaration was issued as a result of a similar action taken by Secretary of Agriculture to help farmers recover from damages and losses to crops caused by early freezes that occurred August 19 through October 8, 2004," said SBA Disaster Area Director, Michael C. Allen.

Under this declaration, SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program is available to small, non-farm, agriculture-dependent businesses and small agricultural cooperatives that suffered economic injury as a direct result of the weather's effect on agricultural producers. According to Allen farm implement dealers, seed and feed, spraying, and irrigation businesses are examples of businesses most typically in need of assistance from the SBA.

Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) provide working capital to small businesses so they can continue to pay bills and meet normal operating expenses. Maximum loans to a business of up to \$1.5 million are available at 2.9 percent interest with loan terms of up to 30 years. SBA determines eligibility for the program based on the

size and type of business and its financial resources. Under this disaster declaration, SBA does not provide loans to agricultural producers, and cannot provide loans to non-agricultural dependent businesses.

"SBA can help these small businesses overcome their economic injuries by offering these working capital loans, but the help can't start until they apply," Allen added.

Interested business owners should contact the SBA Disaster Area 2 Office at One Baltimore Place, Suite 300, Atlanta, GA 30308 or call 1-800-359-2227 for more information and to obtain a loan application.



FOOT NOTES

by Ronald K. Olm, D.P.M.

HOW ARTHRITIS AFFECTS THE FEET

The two main types of arthritis, osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis, can affect the feet. Osteoarthritis, the most common arthritis, develops over time from wear and tear on joints. Because the big toe bears so much weight, it is most vulnerable to wear and tear. Cartilage erodes to the point that the bone ends fuse, leading to stiffness and aches in the area. Rheumatoid arthritis is a systemic disease that strikes the entire body. All joints and muscles in the feet are affected, becoming swollen and stiff. Soles of the feet may feel tender, and corns, calluses, and ulcers may develop under the soles. Bunions, bony protrusions around the big toe, are more common in patients with rheumatoid arthritis. Listen to your feet. They often have lots of things to tell you,

including giving you clues about the rest of your body's well-being. When your feet tell you there is trouble, as your podiatrist, GRAND TRAVERSE FOOT AND ANKLE CENTER, P.C. will work as a team with you and other health care providers to keep you on your feet, healthy and pain-free. From aging feet to baby's tender toes, we offer foot care for the family at 1209 E. 8th Street, Traverse City. Please call 922-9100 & 800-968-7440 for an appointment. Offices in Traverse City, also Kalkaska Memorial Health Center Monday & Wednesday afternoons and evenings.

P.S. Rheumatoid arthritis is an autoimmune disease that can be inherited.

Crawford AuSable Community Education and Hardbodyz Team up for you to get in shape!

GET ACTIVE GRAYLING! A challenge class, got 5,10,15 or 20#s to loose? This is your class. Get the education, support, and motivation to reach your goal. Participants will set an 8-week goal and learn a plan to achieve it! 16 classes, (8 weeks) for \$45.00 6pm Monday-Wednesday-optional Friday.

AEROBIC CIRCUIT CLASS: WOMEN ONLY involve cardio exercise done for a specific time period. Limit 5 people. Class is at 6pm Tuesday & Thursday evenings. 12 classes, (6 weeks) for \$40.00 EASY TO MODERATE LEVEL.

WEIGHT CIRCUIT CLASS: WOMEN ONLY involve 30 minutes of light to medium weighted exercises. Limit 5 people. Class is at 7pm Tuesday & Thursday's. 12 classes, (6 weeks) for \$40.00 EASY TO MODERATE LEVEL.

RACQUETBALL CLASS: Learn to play racquetball at Grayling's only racquetball court. Great aerobic exercise and so much fun you won't know your exercising! Sign up early, this class is limited 6 people. Bring a partner and join the fun. 16 classes, (8 weeks) for \$45.00. 7pm on Monday & Saturday at 10am.

CORE TRAINING: Lower back & Abdominal Strengthening on the swiss ball. Stretch out, warm up and workout your core on the swiss ball for total strengthening. Your lower back and abdominal area never looked so great! 12 classes, (6 weeks) for \$40.00. EASY TO MODERATE LEVEL.

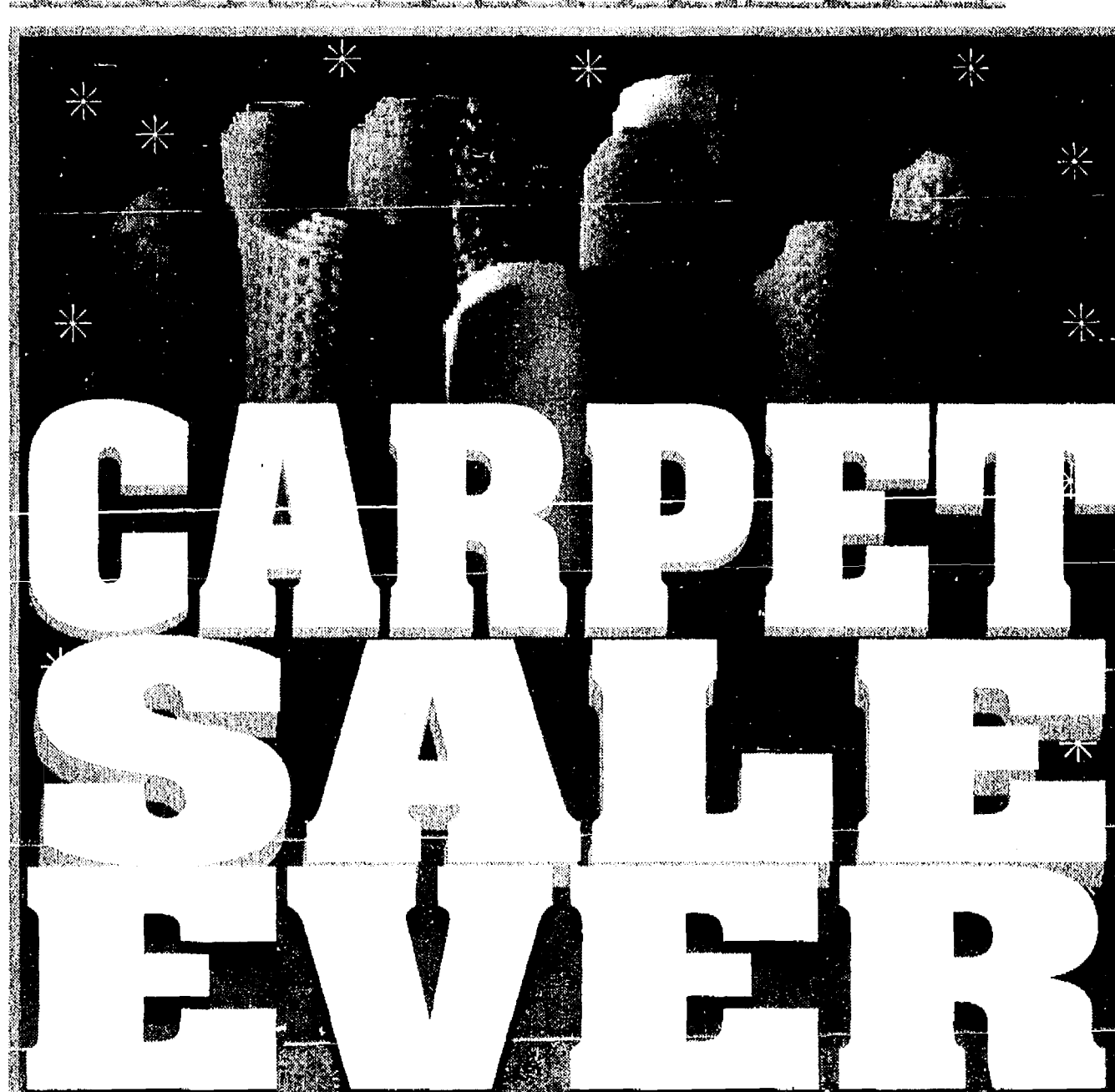
Adult, Alternative & Community Education "Discover Yourself - Discover Your Future"



Go Back To School...
Earn Your High School diploma...
Learn A New Job Skill...
Improve Yourself...
...FREE!

All classes are held at the Grayling Sports Club, Hardbodyz. Call 348-7199 for more information.

OUR BIGGEST



BERBER
\$3.99 sq. yd.

GRANDS TAIL
starting at
\$3.99 sq. ft. in stock

25% off all
carpet & vinyl
remnants in stock

**LAMINATE
FLOORING**
\$.99 sq. ft.

Alpine Carpet and Design Center
JUST OFF I-75 AT EXIT 270, IN WATERS
989-732-1759 • 800-800-5791



Pictured in front is Mark McCully, director of Workforce Development at Kirtland Community College's M-TEC Center, who coordinates more than 400 training modules offered to employers who want or need to improve their skills.

Workforce development has a new partner at M-TEC

Outsourcing, downsizing, re-engineering, restructuring — they're the buzzwords of today's business and manufacturing worlds and for today's workforce they signal the need to update skills and jump into the frenzy of the "global economy."

Locally, as manufacturers move their plants to other countries and the unemployment rate rises, it's never been more crucial to have a leg up on the competition.

"Those who are more versatile and have an edge are the ones who are going to be working," said Mark McCully, director of Workforce Development at Kirtland Community College's Michigan Technical Education Center which opened its doors in Gaylord in January 2001.

McCully coordinates the more than 400 training modules that M-TEC offers to employers who want or need to improve the skills of their workers and he's made M-TEC a hot commodity in this region of the state.

Gaylord's Cooper Standard Automotive plant employs 220 and recently sent some of its employees for training at M-TEC.

"We've taken similar training a couple hours away," said Chris Pushman, electrical engineer and maintenance manager for Cooper. "The corporate office sometimes offers training, but that could be anywhere in the country."

In particular, Cooper employees took advantage of a HAZ-WOPER — hazardous waste operations and emergency response — course offered through M-TEC in December. Workers from Georgia Pacific, Great Lakes Tissue of Cheboygan, Sandvik of West Branch and other firms also participated in the 40-hour training that is mandated by the Occupational Safety and Health Association and trains workers how to comply with laws and regulations that pertain to their jobs.

It's all part of the M-TEC mission. Courses are offered with the aim of improving the existing workforce for a wide range of industries, including restaurants or other food handling operations, health care facilities and many more. Workers can learn anything from how to create a PowerPoint presentation, to the facts about labor law, safety, or how to streamline their manufacturing processes.

McCully said he can arrange for the classes to take place at the M-TEC facility, conference centers or on site at just about any business within the M-TEC or Kirtland Community College district.

McCully has been the director of the Workforce Development

program for M-TEC since Nov. 1, 2004. The primary focus of his job is identifying local training needs and coordinating training programs to meet those needs.

"The most satisfying part of my job is seeing people learn something they can use on the job and to be successful," McCully said.

But he isn't the only one to be rewarded by the experience.

"I met with some business representatives this morning," he said recently. "They would normally have to send their people downstate to get the type of training we offer. Taking it through M-TEC saves them money on travel, hotels, food — all those extras they would have to pay."

M-TEC's workforce development roster is growing all the time. McCully develops new courses where the need exists.

In addition to helping train those who are already employed, M-TEC offers certificate and degree programs in a number of high-skill career areas, including carpentry, electrical technology, heating/ventilation/AC/refrigeration, industrial maintenance, machine tool technology, and welding and fabricating. Certificates of completion are also offered in a Practical Nursing Level I (LPN) program.

Dual-enrollment programs for

high school students and class articulation — which is also offered — give high school students a leg up in the job market.

McCully has been part of the faculty at M-TEC since it opened. With an associate's degree in welding from Kirtland Community College and a bachelor's from Ferris State University in welding engineering technology, he brought years of industry work experience to the center when he began there as a welding instructor. He continues as a part-time instructor on top of his job of coordinating classes for the Workforce Development program.

In his spare time, he's working on earning a master's degree through Spring Arbor University, taking advantage of the University Center, co-inhabitant of the state-of-the-art building M-TEC occupies, located near Gaylord High School.

McCully said all types of students are finding their way to M-TEC. A big draw is the flexible approach the center takes. Courses are taught in a modular fashion and enrollment is open entry/exit, meaning students can sign up any time, learn the modules they want, at their own pace and take on only as much of a course load as they need.

"For example, in our welding

program, we have students from high school age, to middle aged, from college students to workers trying to improve their skills, to retirees who want to pursue this as a hobby or fix something around the house," McCully said.

But it's those who are currently in the workforce and need to improve or gain skills that McCully is focusing on in his new position, and he's finding it a very rewarding experience as the state's unemployment rate rises and the wage gap widens.

Current course offerings in the Workforce Development program include paraprofessional certification that is required by the No Child Left Behind Act, as well as courses in Microsoft Excel, a commonly used computer spreadsheet program. In February, look for M-TEC to offer a ServSafe course for those food industry workers who need it. The 40-hour HAZWOPER training, an eight-hour HAZWOPER refresher, and training in lean manufacturing principles will be offered in March.

For more information on course and program offerings at M-TEC, call 989-705-3600, or log on at <http://mtcc.kirtland.edu> <<http://mtcc.kirtland.edu>>.

Northern Tails
WE MOVED!! Now Located at:
5951 Glenwood Ct. Grayling
Phone: 344-9999
Open Monday To Saturday
Quality Pet Grooming by Appt.

Located one mile north of Grayling, Take Old27- North to blinking light at M-93, turn left onto Airport Rd. Go one block to Glenwood Ct., turn left, first driveway.

Know your limits when it comes to snow shoveling

By Ernie Harwell



It's said that there are only two certainties in life: death and taxes. Well, I'd argue that here in Michigan, we have a third: snow.

Now there's no doubt snow can be beautiful. However, it can also pose some risk to our health.

If you have a personal or family history of heart disease or high blood pressure, if you smoke, or if you're generally an inactive person, you can be in

a danger zone if you run out there to shovel the walk.

Even generally healthy people need to be careful. Here are some tips:

- Freshly fallen snow is easier to shovel, so try to remove snow right after a storm.
- Dress warmly and in layers.
- Drink water to avoid dehydration.
- Bend from the knees and tighten your stomach muscles as you lift the snow.
- If the snow is too heavy to lift, push it like a snowplow.

Most importantly, take it slow and stop if you feel pain or discomfort.

The bottom line is that it's important to do what's right for your health. Your best options might be paying a youngster in the neighborhood to shovel your walk or asking someone for a helping hand.

Take care of your health before it's lonnnngggg gone.

Ernie Harwell, "the voice of the Detroit Tigers" for more than four decades, retired after 55 years behind a major league microphone. Today, at age 87, Ernie's days are filled with serving as a health and fitness advocate for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network, public appearances, writing, traveling and taking long walks with "Miss Lulu," his wife of more than 60 years. His latest book, a collection of his baseball columns titled "Life After Baseball," is available at local bookstores or by calling 1-800-245-5082.

Sponsored By

AuSable Urgent Care, P.C.

Gerald W. Gertiser, MSN CS FNP

Monday - Friday 9am - 7pm

Saturday 10am - 4pm

Located in the Milltown Medical Center

1200 North Down River

PO Box 393

Grayling, MI 49738

Phone: (989) 348-7400

Fax: (989) 348-6268



Mercy Smile

Friendly

Encouraging

Compassionate

This is the Mercy Smile.



MERCY HOSPITAL GRAYLING

Partnering with **MUNSON HEALTHCARE**

Knowledge to Heal, Compassion to Care

A Member of TRINITY HEALTH

(989) 348-5461 • MERCYGRAYLING.MUNSONHEALTHCARE.ORG

CRAWFORD COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

WEEKDAY SCHEDULED SERVICES TO:

FREDERIC & MAPLE FOREST

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| Leaves Grayling | 5:45 a.m. |
| Leaves Grayling | 6:45 a.m. |
| Leaves Grayling | 8:00 a.m. |
| Leaves Grayling | 11:30 a.m. |
| Leaves Grayling | 1:15 p.m. |
| Leaves Grayling | 3:00 p.m. |
| Leaves Grayling | 5:00 p.m. |

LOVELLS

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| Leaves Grayling | 9:00 a.m. |
| Leaves Grayling | 11:30 a.m. |
| Leaves Grayling | 1:30 p.m. |
| Leaves Grayling | 3:30 p.m. |
| Leaves Grayling | 5:00 p.m. |

M-72 EAST

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| Leaves Grayling | 6:00 a.m. |
| Leaves Grayling | 7:00 a.m. |
| Leaves Grayling | 9:00 a.m. |
| Leaves Grayling | 11:30 a.m. |
| Leaves Grayling | 1:30 p.m. |
| Leaves Grayling | 3:30 p.m. |
| Leaves Grayling | 5:00 p.m. |

M-72 WEST

Demand Response Service
Calls Worked In Between Other Runs

BEAVER CREEK & ROSCOMMON

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| Leaves Grayling | 7:30 a.m. |
| Leaves Grayling | 11:00 a.m. |
| Leaves Grayling | 1:00 p.m. |
| Leaves Grayling | 2:15 p.m. |
| Leaves Grayling | 4:30 p.m. |

*The 1:00 p.m. south run does not go all the way into Roscommon.

To Request Weekday Demand Response Services
Call Dispatch @ 348-5409.

RURAL HEALTH INITIATIVE TRIPS

Transportation dependent individuals requiring transportation for the purpose of accessing specialty medical services not locally available may qualify for RHI medical transportation services.

Information regarding RHI medical transportation services can be obtained by contacting:

Dave Frederick @ 348-8215

SPECIAL EVENT TRIPS**:

Scheduled For February 2005

Date: Tuesday, February 8, 2005

Destination: Victorias Casino - Petoskey

Departs Grayling: 8:30 a.m.

Arrives Back In Grayling: 4:00 p.m. (Approximately)

*Special Event Trips Require: (1) a minimum of twenty-two passengers; and (2) that passengers less than 18 years of age be accompanied by a responsible adult.

To Reserve Seats or Request Information Concerning
Special Event Trips
Call Richard or Gary @ 348-4101

COMMUNITY EVENT SERVICES:

Service schedules may be modified to meet increased demand during special community events, such as the Mill Town Festival.

To Request Information Concerning Expanded Services
Call Richard or Gary @ 348-4101

Grayling funeral home under new ownership

by Josh Greenberg
Staff Writer

For Terrie Lockwood, directing funerals has been a dream she's had since she was a teenager. With her family's purchase of Sorenson Funeral Home recently, that dream is realized.

"I wanted to be a funeral director in high school. But at that time, women weren't accepted as funeral directors," she said.

Lockwood, a Grayling resident for the last ten years, has spent twenty years as a nurse. After working at Grayling's Mercy Hospital, she enrolled in the Wayne State Funeral Directing School, Michigan's only school in funeral direction.

Through both education and apprenticeship, Lockwood became experienced in her field. The new Sorenson-Lockwood

Funeral Home is the beginning of a family endeavor.

"It's important for people to know that all pre-existing contracts will be honored," Lockwood said.

Terrie Lockwood has made some changes, including putting a desk by the entrance and also a table in the arrangement room, to promote a more familial setting.

"There's a lot more to setting

up a funeral than people think. People plan up to six months for marriage. For funerals, there's only two or three days," Lockwood said.

Lockwood strives to make each service personalized.

"My favorite part is meeting with the families and making the service reflect the person's life," she said.



Photo by Josh Greenberg

Chrissy, Terrie and Rick Lockwood stand in the new arrangement room of the Sorenson-Lockwood Funeral Home.

Staff of Kirtland's student newspaper wins awards

Jerry Nunn, former editor of Kirtland Community College's student newspaper, *The Paper*, has been named Journalist of the Year by the Michigan Press Association, the professional organization to which most newspapers in the state belong.

Nunn, of Lupton, also won first place in the Non-Deadline

News Story award category.

Also, Jill Schult, of Lewiston, who is *The Paper's* current editor, won second place in the Deadline News category.

The MPA announced the awards Thursday, Jan. 6.

Kirtland's entries were judged by newspaper professionals in the Division III category against

most other community college newspapers in the state, as well as several papers from four-year colleges which offers bachelor's degrees in journalism.

"In other words, this is no small accomplishment," said Keith Gave, faculty advisor to *The Paper* which was launched in November 2002 and won awards

in 2003 as well.

The 2004 awards will be presented at the MPA's annual meetings in Grand Rapids later this month.

To view past issues of *The Paper*, log on to the Kirtland Web site at www.kirtland.edu, or call the staff of *The Paper* at 989-275-5000, Ext. 308.

AREA BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Put your business before over 8,000 readers and the Internet for
Home Page Address: www.townnews.com/avalanche/

Only \$3.85 per week*

\$100.00
6 month contract

BUILDING & REMODELING SERVICES

OSGA
MASONRY & CONSTRUCTION
New Construction • Garages • Additions
Cultured Stone • Brick • Flat Work
(989) 348-1075 Jay Osga
Frederic, MI INSURED LICENSED BUILDER

"We Do Tough Jobs!"
MY HOUSE DOCTOR
Jerry Sessions
BUILDING & REMODELING
www.jerry@myhousedoctor.com
ADDITIONS & KITCHEN SPECIALIST
Windows • Decks • Garages
Roofing & Siding
INSURANCE WORK
LICENSED & INSURED
FREE ESTIMATES
989-366-6279 • 1-800-923-7527
SENIOR DISCOUNT 10% OFF

Scott Pittman Builder
• Licensed Builder
• Homes-Garages
• Remodeling - Additions
• Drywall - Trim Work
• Siding - Shingle and Metal Roofs
900 Michigan Ave.
Grayling, MI 49738
989-348-6136

Residential Commercial
C.T.R. CONSTRUCTION & NORTHERN LITES WINDOW
Now offering energy efficient
Quality Vinyl Windows/Doorways
Replacement Windows &
New Construction
INSTALLATION AVAILABLE
COMPLETE BUILDING SERVICE
Additions, Remodel, Masonry,
Concrete, Decks, Pole Buildings,
Manufactured Home Setup.
FREE ESTIMATES
George Rick
989-348-5215 989-710-0276
Jerry
989-710-7443
E-Mail: Northernlites@NetPenny.Net

Bonded Metal Shingles Standing Seam Insured
ROOFS Of The NORTH
ALL TYPES OF ROOFS
★ Pole Barns, Decks, Windows, Garages, Siding
★ Check Out Our New Complete Showroom
249 W. Federal Hwy., Roscommon, MI 48653 Cell Phone (989) 302-1573
Subsidiary of Bayview Sheet Metal, Inc. Phone (989) 275-5047

COLLEN MASONRY
Basements • Crawl Space
Garage Slabs • Driveways
Cultured Stone • Chimneys
Licensed & Insured
Phone: 989-348-6184 Cell: 989-390-0767

Put your business
before over
8,000 readers and the
Internet for
\$100 for 6 months
(\$3.85 per week)
Home Page Address:
www.townnews.com/avalanche/

Put your business
before over
8,000 readers and
the Internet for
\$200 for 6 months
(\$7.70 per week)
Home Page Address:
www.townnews.com/avalanche/

KARP'S INC.
Kitchens & Baths, Inc.
Old World Craftsmanship
HOMECREST
More Than Meets The Eye

Complete Wood or Formica
Kitchens • Bathrooms
Countertops • Furniture
Over 20 years experience
Builders Welcome
Denny Karp
(989) 348-9300
5625 M-72 W., Grayling, MI

DOORWAYS OF THE NORTH
Serving All Of Northern
Michigan Since 1980 With
Warehouse & Showroom
at 2306 S. Industrial
Grayling
989-348-5426
1-800-292-9026
Sales, Service & Installation
Windows, Doors &
Garage Doors

HONOR CONSTRUCTION
10586 Pocahontas Trl. Roscommon, MI 48653
(989) 275-4842
I can do that!
And that!
And that too!

J.T. Cochrane Construction
New Construction or Remodeling for
your Northern home or retreat.
Complete general contracting services for
your individual project.
• Additions • Decks • Siding • Garages • And More
Custom design service available
phone/fax: (989) 348-8527
e-mail: cochrane1@freeway.net INSURED

Barber Construction Inc.
Builder - Remodeler
A Full Service Contractor
Specializing in:
New Homes and
Remodeling
~ Design Service
~ Professional Craftsmanship
~ Quality & Value backed by a
2 year warranty
Call us now for 2003
scheduling
(989) 275-5703
1210 Rough Ct. Roscommon, MI
www.tl-hba.org/tbarber

Richard L. Martin Construction
Division of Classic Log Homes, Inc.
Frame & Log Homes - Remodeling Kitchen & Bath
Additions - Garages - Design Service & Plans Available
Window replacement (Certified Pella Contractor)
Vinyl & Aluminum Siding (Custom Bending)
More than 20 years experience - Licensed & Insured
P.O. Box 125 • Higgins Lake, Michigan
(989) 821-6118

Hall's Painting
Residential • Commercial • Interior • Exterior
(989) 348-8169
(989) 673-7889
Gary & Brenda Hall (810)338-3199

METAL ROOFING SIDING WINDOWS
Licensed and Insured • Free Estimates
GLENWOOD BUILDERS, L.L.C.
(989) 345-8561 OR 1-800-556-6998
www.glenwoodbuildersllc.com

Quality Construction
• Roofing
• Tear Off
• New Construction
• Siding, Decks and
Power Washing
989-348-5817 or 989-390-1526

THAD POOLEY'S PAINTING • STAINING
WOODWORK • EXTERIORS
Interior • Exterior
Call Thad today!

HAI'S MASONRY, INC.
The Foundation Dreams Are Built On
MASONRY SERVICES
• Block • Brick •
• Cultured Stone •
• Flatwork • Stamped Concrete •
• Poured Walls • Retaining Walls •

POLE BUILDINGS
Commercial, Farm, or Residential
50 years experience
Standing Seam Metal Roofing
Licensed and Insured
Free Estimates
J.W. Hagerman
Construction, L.L.C.
(989) 348-1662 • Cell: (989) 619-6780
Grayling

DAVE ROSS
Licensed Builder
Homes - Additions - Remodeling
Siding - Decks - Garages - Roofing
Custom Cabinetry
Quality work in Grayling area since 1972
P.O. Box 252, Grayling
8649 West Beaver Road
348-6444

Put your business
before over
8,000 readers and the
Internet for
\$100 for 6 months
(\$3.85 per week)
Home Page Address:
www.townnews.com/avalanche/

CuSable CONSTRUCTION
BUILDING IN NORTHERN MICHIGAN SINCE 1976
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
(989) 348-5477 2342 Industrial St.
FAX (989) 348-3232 Grayling Industrial Park
Grayling, MI

EXCAVATING SERVICES
• Backhoe • Dozer
• Septics • Drainfields •
• Lot Clearing •
3730 Arbutus Lane
Grayling, MI 49738
(989) 348-8179 • Fax: (989) 348-5096
Licensed & Insured

Don Kernstock
New Homes
Remodeling
Additions
Garages
Cement Work
Roofing
Licensed & Insured
989-348-8945
107 Kings Court, Grayling, MI 49738

Northern Tails wagging in brand new building

by Josh Greenberg
Staff Writer

On January 10, Jan Andrews officially moved her pet grooming and salon business, Northern Tails, from Michigan Avenue to Glenwood Road, off of Airport Road.

"We wanted to own our own building. I think it was the smartest thing we ever did," Andrews said.

The new building, built by Lacey Stephan Construction, took only three months. The interior became a family project.

"I would work all day, and then go work all night on the new place. Sometimes I'd be up until two in the morning," Andrews said.

The opening of the Michigan Avenue Northern Tails on November 27, 2000, marked Andrews' return to grooming after a long and painful hiatus, during which her sister passed away from cancer.

"I quit my old business, Milltown Grooming, in 1992 to be with my sister," Andrews said.

Andrews began grooming when she was only eight years



Photo by Josh Greenberg

Nick Walters, Josh Noel and Northern Tails owner Jan Andrews put the finishing touches on a couple of canines.

old, and has been trimming, clipping and otherwise pampering pets for 40 years. Two of her four children are also in the busi-

ness. She met her husband Jeff in 1999. He works not only for Georgia Pacific, but also sharpens grooming shears.

"I like the versatility -- I see something in a dog...I want to make that dog look its very best," Andrews said.

LIBRARY NEWS

Devereaux Memorial Crawford County Library

Pre-school story hour will resume on Tuesday, February 1, at 10:30 a.m., and continue through spring. The first week children will make food treats.

American Girls program will start on February 3, and run through February on Thursdays

3:30 p.m. to 4:40 p.m. Ali from The Ice House will be bringing project ideas and a gift certificate will be issued to each girl who completes the project. Friends of the Library have donated the money for dolls of the world and books for participants.

Lego builders to take the challenge on March 17, 24 and 31

from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Each session builders will read about an interesting locale or time period and then make a structure using what they've learned and their own creativity. The Friends have donated Lego gifts for the architects-in-training.

Students who were on the waiting list for American Girls and

Legos in the fall will be the first registered for the winter sessions. Early registration is recommended, as space is limited for each of these programs. Sign-up sheets are at the library.

Library hours are Monday through Friday 10 a.m. until 7 p.m., and Saturdays 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Tri-Lakes 16th Annual Home Show

April 16 & 17, 2005
Houghton Lake High School

If anyone is interested in renting a booth, please contact Wilma at 989-275-4759



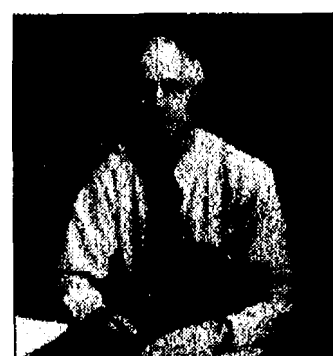
10'x10' booths
5'x10' booths
Outside space available

BEST WISHES

Mark Furst

Branch Manager of Chemical Bank Retires

Mark W. Furst, branch manager of the Chemical Bank Houghton Lake Heights Office will be retiring January 28, 2005. Mr. Furst began employment with Chemical Bank Grayling Office (originally Northern National) in 1982 as Vice President and Cashier. Other duties and responsibilities over the years included Compliance Officer, personal loan and mortgage lender. In 1999, he transferred to the Houghton Lake Office to his current position.



Mr. Furst's involvement in the community associations consisted of United Way, Kiwanis, Houghton Lake Merchants Association, Chamber of Commerce, Habitat for Humanity, and Housing Commission.

Anyone wishing to extend congratulations may stop into the office or contact him at 989-422-5111.



CHEMICAL BANK

We think you'll like the chemistry.

MEMBER FDIC / EQUAL HOUSING LENDER / EQUAL OPPORTUNITY LENDER

www.chemicalbank.com

AREA BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Put your business before over 8,000 readers and the Internet for
Home Page Address: www.townnews.com/avalanche/

Only \$3.85 per week*

*\$100.00
6 month contract

AREA SERVICES

AJD FOREST PRODUCTS
LARGEST INDUSTRIAL LUMBER
PRODUCER IN THE LAKE STATES
We Buy Standing Timber
With Supervised Cutting
By Our
Professional Foresters.
"A Forest Friendly Company"
Four Mile Road • P.O. Box 619
Grayling, MI 49738
(889) 348-5412

Fritch Electric
• Residential • Commercial • Industrial
"Make the Right Connection"
Licensed & Insured
Joe Fritch
(989) 344-7445 • Pager: (586) 717-4996
2640 Shaw Park Rd. • Grayling, MI 49738

**WE DO ANYTHING LOG AT
RUSTIC RAILS
LUMBER & SUPPLY, L.L.C.**
• Custom Made Furniture • Handrails, Stairways
• T & G Lumber & Flooring • Wholesale Prices
WE CATER TO THE LOG HOME INDUSTRY
FREE ESTIMATES!
9705 N. SHERMAN • P.O. BOX 138
989-348-2564 • FAX 989-348-2708
www.rusticrails.com

**ADVANCED
BUSINESS
MACHINES, INC.**
"People dedicated to service"
**SHARP
COPIERS • FAX**
220 E. Ludington Dr. (989) 588-9750
FARWELL, MI 48822 1-800-922-5184

Commercial • Industrial • Residential
Primary Electric Co.
Electrical Contractors
P.O. Box 398
Grayling, MI 49738
Jason Small Bus. 348-6440 David Small Fax: 348-4151

Need a "Housewatcher"?
We will look after your seasonal or full-time home all 4 seasons, 1 week or 52. Reasonable Rates • Experienced Satisfaction Assured
The Housewatcher Company
989-348-6294 or 989-348-7333
The "Housewatcher People"
Licensed & Bonded

Put your business
before over
8,000 readers and the
Internet for
\$100 for 6 months
(\$3.85 per week)
Home Page Address:
www.townnews.com/avalanche/

L.W. COAN
Licensed WATER WELL DRILLING Insured
Things of Quality have no fear of time
1402 Knoch Rd. • Grayling, MI 49735 (989) 732-0642

**Thomas I. O'Brien
Architect Inc.**
9029 North Cur Road
County Road #100
Roscommon, MI 48653
821-0404
Commercial and Residential
Licensed Architect Since 1980

TWIN OAKS LANDSCAPING
Design & installation for large and small areas
• Foundation plantings • Retaining walls • Brick
paver walks, patios, driveways • Landscape lighting
• Lawn maintenance • Hydroseeding/Sodding
• Large tree transplanting
989-275-8089
400 E. Federal Hwy. • Roscommon, MI 48653

Ferrellgas
PROPANE & APPLIANCES
525 N. Grayling Road, Grayling, MI 49738
Bryan Klemish 989) 348-6241
District Manager (800) 477-6241

Ted Gomez
Master Electrician
Acacia AuSable Electric
Let There Be Light
P.O. Box 290
Frederic, MI 49733
Phone: 989-348-6229 E-mail: tpgomez@voyager.net
Fax: 989-348-6589 Toll Free: 1-877-451-4323

**ARMY
NAVY
PINEVIEW
SURPLUS & SUPPLY**
Dan & Chris Klatt Pineview Motel
989-348-8300 7328 Old-27 North
Fax 989-348-7355 Frederic, MI 49733

**TOMPKIN'S
EXCAVATING**
"Two Men And A Hoe"
Commercial & Residential
• Site Prep • Parking Lots
• Septic System • Lot Clearing
• Replacements • Road Building
• Drainage Systems • Topsoil, Fill, Gravel, Sand
• Road Grading • Snowplowing & Removal
989-348-9600

**River House Shelter and
Domestic Crisis Services**
Educational/Support Group for Women
Dealing with Domestic Violence Issues
Offered by River House Shelter &
Domestic Crisis Services
Please Call
1-888-554-3169 or 989-348-3169
P.O. Box 601, Grayling, MI 49738

**MYERS LAND
SURVEY CO., INC.**
P.O. Box 831
Grayling, MI 49738
Ph. (989) 348-4036
Marvin E. Myers,
Licensed Surveyor
Michigan No. 31600

MILLTOWN ELECTRIC
Residential • Commercial • Industrial
Electrical • Energy Management
Fire Alarms • Security Systems
RICK DAVIS
Licensed & Insured
989-348-6280 • FAX 989-348-6101
5897 W. North Down River Rd., Grayling, MI 49738

**Alpine
CARPET**
VINCE OPALINSKI & MATT OPALINSKI
Owners
Floor Covering Sales
1492 Mariette Rd. (989) 732-1759
Walt's (800) 900-5191
Walters, MI 49737

Child's Play Day Care
• Licensed
• Healthy Meals
• Fun & Structured
Activities
• Flexible Hours
Pat McLaughlin
Teacher-Owner/Operator 989-348-4249

Put your business
before over
8,000 readers and the
Internet for
\$100 for 6 months
(\$3.85 per week)
Home Page Address:
www.townnews.com/avalanche/

**Martin
Schilbe
TREE CARE**
Certified Arborist • Fully Insured
Aerial Equipment • Tree Climbing
View Development • Tree Trimming
Tree Removal • Stump Grinding
FULLY INSURED • FREE ESTIMATES
989-821-8555 • 1-800-829-8555

**DO YOU NEED MONEYP
CASH OUT * PAY OFF DEBT
\$0 Down PURCHASES
MARY BECKER**
989-348-7919 * 248-712-3453
Washington Mortgage
Company

FREE IN-HOME WATER ANALYSIS
SALES • SERVICE
RENTALS
OVER 27 YEARS EXPERIENCE REVERSE
OSMOSS SALT DELIVERY
DOES IT ALL
SOFTENS WATER
REMOVES SULFUR
REMOVES IRON
989-366-4043 889-744-7638
1828 B. W. HOUGHTON LAKE DR., HOUGHTON LAKE

UGA - Association Field Services
A Division of the MEGA Life and Health Insurance Company
Attention Business Owners and Individuals!
The National Association for the Self-Employed has OVER 100
business, personal, & health benefits available including
access to endorsed **affordable health insurance**
Call today!
Bob Talbot
Licensed Insurance Agent
(800) 979-6273
*Underwritten by the MEGA Life and Health Insurance
Company, Home Office: Oklahoma City, OK
MNATL95-07/04

**Roll Off
Container
Rental**
10, 15, and 20 yard
containers
Northrop Tree & Crane Service
989-344-9197

**GRAYLING AREA
Internet Services**
Local Access!
as low as
\$18.95
per month
1.888.282.4932

BLAINE ROSE
3711 S. Loxley Rd.
Houghton Lake, MI 49931
Phone: (989) 348-3452
Cell: (989) 348-3452

TREE AND CRANE SERVICE
• Stump Grinding • Concrete or Wood
Seawalls • Landscaping
30 years experience Guaranteed Construction
Estimates Given & Insured
John Schilbe 989-275-5021 • 1-800-428-3019

Mike Lesko
Propane Sales & Service
Office: 989-348-7847
800-282-9285
113 Flg Street
Grayling, MI 49738
Petroleum Marketers

**NORTHROP TREE & CRANE
SERVICE**
Jerry Northrop
Insured
Aerial Bucket Truck
Stump Removal
Aerial Crane Truck
Roll-Off Containers
(989) 348-5639
Pager: 989-405-0100
561 Killeen Tr.
Grayling, MI 49738

**Sorenson Lockwood
Funeral Home**
Terrie L. Lockwood
Manager / Owner
1108 North Down River Road
P.O. Box 602
Grayling, Michigan 49738
Phone: 989-348-2951 Fax: 989-348-4968

**J&D
DRYWALL**
HANGING, FINISHING, TEXTURING
AND REPAIR
FREE ESTIMATES
FULLY INSURED
JAMES HERNANDEZ PHONE 989-344-0085

**Milltown Motors
USED CARS & TRUCKS**
All kinds of automotive repair
Pickup truck accessories,
covers and caps
EAZ-LIFT Hitchco & Towing Products
Old 27 North • Grayling
(989) 348-7352

National Guard participates in critical infrastructure protection

Michigan Homeland Security Critical Infrastructure Protection Committee participated in a one day seminar designed to identify vital intrastate infrastructure, and establish preventative actions that better protect the citizens of Michigan against acts of terrorism. The Critical Infrastructure Protection Committee is made up of Michigan National Guard officials and representatives from local, State, Federal and private agencies.

The Buffer Zone Protection Plan created by the Michigan National Guard is one such preventative plan. This plan makes it more difficult for terrorists to conduct surveillance or launch attacks in the vicinity of critical

infrastructure and at key assets. The plan outlines the perimeters of a target; identifies the threats, risks and vulnerabilities of the target; and documents the actions to be taken.

In the event of a terrorist attack, the Michigan National Guard at the direction of the governor, will deploy a Quick Reaction Force (QRF) within two to four hours of the call. The QRF reports to the incident commander and to implement force protection capabilities. A sizable follow-on force, the Ready Reaction Force, will replace the QRF within 72 hours. The QRF is then available to respond to any subsequent events that may occur.

Changes to school board elections mean tight deadlines and new requirements

A new election consolidation law now requires persons interested in running for a seat on a local school board to file by Tuesday, Feb. 8. That's a full two months earlier than in the past, says the Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB).

Its annual guide to school elections details all the changes under the law and explains all the requirements to get on the ballot.

For decades, school elections have been held on a Monday in mid-June with filing deadlines in April. Now, most local board of education elections will occur May 3. This year's early filing deadline requires prompt action by candidates to qualify for a spot on the ballot, according to MASB. Key deadlines for citizens to file their forms are:

- Tuesday, Feb. 8, 4 p.m. - Nominating petitions and affidavits of identity due. (A \$100 nonrefundable fee may be filed in lieu of a petition.)

- Friday, Feb. 11, 4 p.m. - Deadline for a written withdrawal.

- Friday, April 29, 4 p.m. - Deadline for write-in candidates to file intent.

Under the new law, candidates must file their petitions with either their city or township clerk, or with the county clerk. According to MASB's 2005 *Candidates Guide to School Board Elections*, where they file depends on what their

school district boundaries are.

"For a school district whose entire territory lies within a single city or township, the city or township clerk will be the school district filing official. For a school district that has territory in more than one city or township, the county clerk of the county in which the largest number of registered school district voters reside will be the school district filing official."

Key deadlines for ISD board elections and campaign finance rules are also spelled out. Not all school elections will occur in May. Some boards have adopted November 8 for their election.

Contact your local school district for specific details on election dates.

CRST
VAN EXPEDITED
800-853-2778
Must be 21 • EOE

DRIVERS
Driving makes sense without you.

- \$2,000 Sign-On Bonus!
- Tractor Lease Program - \$0 Down!
- Average Up To \$1.32 Per Mile!
- Up Front Operating Expenses - COMDATA

We have immediate openings in our Specialized Truckload and Flatbed Fleets for Owner Operators. To be part of our 48-state operation, candidates must possess a minimum of 6 months over-the-road, tractor-trailer-driving experience and a Class A CDL. Call: 800-348-2147 or 800-348-2191. Dept. MIS. EOE

northAmerican VAN LINES
www.navl.com

Urgent news for people who took CELEBREX, VIOXX, or BEXTRA.

Many VIOXX, and CELEBREX, users suffered strokes, heart attacks, blood clots and even death. If you took BEXTRA, you might also have been at risk for a serious cardiovascular health problem. If you or a loved one had any of these problems, call us now toll free at 1-800-THE-EAGLE for a free consultation. We practice law only in Arizona but associate with lawyers throughout the U.S.

GOLDBERG & OSBORNE
1-800-THE-EAGLE
(1-800-843-3245)
www.1800theeagle.com

Open 7 days a week

BIRTHS

Tammy Howe and Robert Howe of Grayling, announce the birth of their son, Zachary Dominic, born at Mercy Hospital in Grayling on January 3, 2005, at 7:47 p.m., weighing 8 lbs. 6 ozs., and measuring 20 inches long.

Martha Trotter and Philip Trotter of Lewiston, announce the birth of their daughter, Lydia Colleen Hope, born at Mercy Hospital in Grayling on December 30, 2004 at 3:16 p.m., weighing 7 lbs., 12 ozs., and measuring 20 inches long.

Terri Lohr of Grayling, announces the birth of her daughter, Madison Emma Louise, born at Mercy Hospital

in Grayling on January 4, 2005 at 6:30 a.m., weighing 8 lbs., 5 ozs., and measuring 20 inches long.

Karen Sue Poll-Ford and Isaac Milton Ford of Grayling, announce the birth of their daughter, Makina Sue, born at Mercy Hospital in Grayling on January 13, 2005 at 2:47 a.m., weighing 7 lbs., and measuring 19 3/4 inches long.

Amy Michelle and Loren Frank Cobb of Grayling, announce the birth of their son, Logan Frank, born at Mercy Hospital in Grayling on January 6, 2005 at 7:02 p.m., weighing 8lbs., 2 ozs., and measuring 22 inches long.

MILITARY NEWS

Navy Seaman Apprentice Michael S. Adams, son of Darlene J. and James M. Adams of Roscommon, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill. with honors.

During the eight-week program, Adams completed a variety of training which included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety. An emphasis was also placed on physical fitness.

The capstone event of boot camp is "Battle Stations." This exercise gives recruits the skills and confidence they need to succeed in the fleet. "Battle Stations" is designed to galvanize the basic warrior attributes of sacrifice, dedication, teamwork and endurance in each recruit through the practical

application of basic Navy skills and the core values of Honor, Courage and Commitment. Its distinctly "Navy" flavor was designed to take into account what it means to be a Sailor.

Adams is a 2004 graduate of Roscommon High School of Roscommon.

Air Force Master Sgt. Steven D. Johnson has arrived for duty at the Air Force Research Laboratory, Tyndall Air Force Base, Panama City, Fla.

Johnson is an engineering assistant with 21 years of military service.

He is the son of Dian M. Schaefer of Frederic, and Gerald Johnson of Maderia Beach, Fla.

His wife, Loretta, is the daughter of George Dodd, and Patsi Dodd, both of Cabot, Ark.

The sergeant is a 1981 graduate of Gaylord High School.

SHERIFF'S REPORT

Crawford County Sheriff Kirk Wakefield reports his office handled the following 67 complaints the week of January 17 - January 23:

Fifteen traffic accidents, two accidents-non traffic, two traffic violations, one traffic safety public safety appearance, one accident-all other, two civil matter/family disputes, four suspicious situations, one lost and found, one natural death, 16 general non-criminal, one delinquent minors, five false alarms,

one assault/intimidation/stalking, one aggravated-assault, two larcenies, one obstruction of justice, two damage to property, two public peace/disorderly, two health and safety, two miscellaneous criminal offense, one miscellaneous arrest, one driving violation/driving while license suspended.

Sheriff Wakefield asks: "Do you know where your children are?"

For more information, log on to: www.crawfordsheriff.org.

GRAYLING POLICE REPORT

Grayling City Police Chief Karl Schreiner reports his department handled the following during the week of January 16 - January 23:

One traffic warning, one traffic accident, one private property accident, one assist other department, two alarm responses, one motorist assists, six city ordinance violations, one larceny complaint, two juvenile complaints, one malicious destruction of property, two civil complaints, one check law violation complaint, one animal control complaint, two intimidation complaints and five unclassified complaints.

Card of Thanks

We'd like to thank all our family, friends and community for their support and prayers in the loss of our son Tom (Thomas) Henry Stevenson. The thoughtfulness of our community and friends makes us very proud to be part of Crawford County. A special thank you to Mercy Hospital, Days Inn, Rochettes, Pastor Bob, Ernie (Flowers by Josie) and Sorenson-Lockwood Funeral Home.

Mark, Margaret (Marty) and Amy Stevenson

Serta
WE MAKE THE WORLD'S BEST MATTRESS

MATTRESS SALE

Clearance

On all 2004 Models

Free Bonuses...

- *0% FINANCING* TIL 2006
- *NEXT DAY* DELIVERY
- *REMOVAL* OF YOUR OLD BED

SERTA TWIN SIZE

\$98 EA. PC.

SOLD IN SETS ONLY

PERFECT SLEEPER QUEEN SIZE PLUSH PILLOW TOP

\$598 SET

FACTORY SELECT COVERS

You'll feel the difference the moment you lie down!

| SERTA PEDIC CLASSIC FIRM | SERTA PEDIC EXTRA FIRM | PERFECT SLEEPER ULTRA PLUSH | PERFECT SLEEPER LUXURY PILLOW TOP |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| \$398 QUEEN SET | \$498 QUEEN SET | \$798 QUEEN SET | \$898 QUEEN SET |
| SALE | SALE | SALE | SALE |
| Twin 2 pc. set \$298 | Twin 2 pc. set \$348 | Twin 2 pc. set \$598 | Twin 2 pc. set \$698 |
| Full 2 pc. set \$448 | Full 2 pc. set \$448 | Full 2 pc. set \$748 | Full 2 pc. set \$848 |
| King 3 pc. set \$698 | King 3 pc. set \$698 | King 3 pc. set \$1198 | King 3 pc. set \$1198 |

GRAYLING
1472 West 1-Mile
Crawford County

"Sleep Better and Pay Less at"

OPEN 7-DAYS
348-2981

To Quality Buyers. Minimum Purchase \$698 For 0% Financing TIL 2006. Minimum Purchase \$498 For 0% Financing For 6 Months. If Paid in Full Before Due Date, Accrued Interest Will Not Be Imposed. Free Next Day Delivery And Removal Of Old Bedding With \$498 Minimum Purchase. Free "Bed Frame" With Purchase Of Any 2004 Perfect Sleeper Set. Previous Sale Do Not Apply. TO ASSURE YOUR TOTAL SLEEPING COMFORT. SALE PRICES ARE BASED ON SET PURCHASE.

Gaylord Cinema West
1775 M-39 West
989-731-9766
Now Showing
10:30 • 7:00 • 9:30

Catch Carter PG-13 (107)
Starring - Samuel L. Jackson
7:00 & 9:30 Nightly
Sat & Sun 2:00 & 4:20

Million Dollar Baby PG-13 (107)
Starring - Clint Eastwood & Hilary Swank
7:00 & 9:30 Nightly
Sat & Sun 2:00 & 4:20

Racing Stripes PG (104)
Starring - Hayden Planetiere
7:00 & 9:00 Nightly
Sat & Sun 2:00 & 4:00

The Phantom of the Opera PG-13 (107)
Starring - Gerard Butler & Emmy Rossum
7:00 & 9:30 Nightly
Sat & Sun 2:00 & 4:20

Are We There Yet? PG (100)
Starring - Ice Cube & Nia Long
7:15 & 9:15 Nightly
Sat & Sun 2:00 & 4:15

Meet The Fockers PG (100)
Starring - Ben Stiller, Robert Deniro & Teri Polo
7:00 & 9:15 Nightly
Sat & Sun 2:00 & 4:15

Check out our website at:
www.infowire.biz

Evenings: Adults \$7.00 • Children \$5.25 • Seniors \$5.75
Tuesday Senior Matinee at 2:00pm All Seats \$3.00
Matinee • All Seats \$5.00

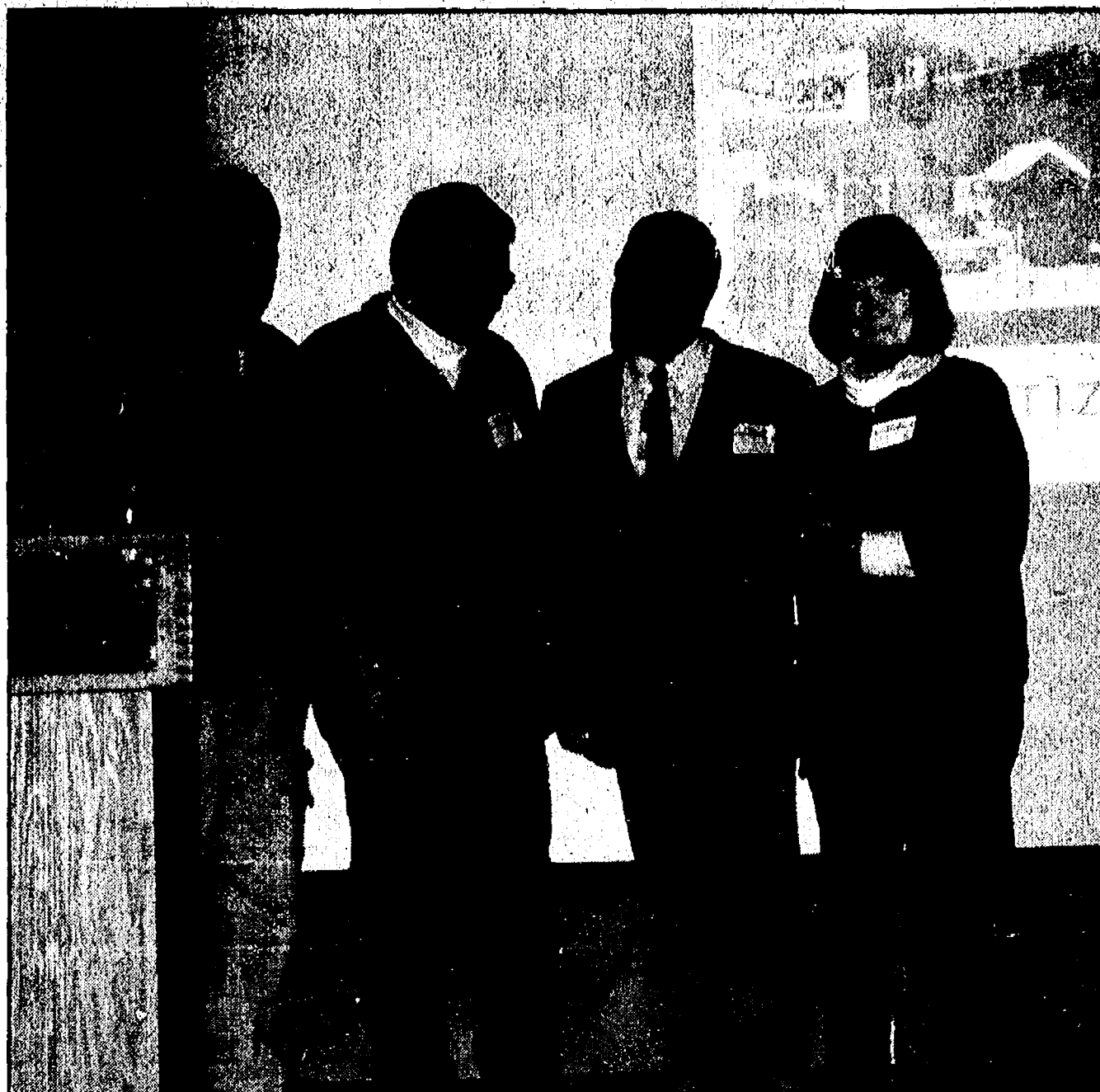


Photo by Dan Sanderson

The Grayling Regional Chamber of Commerce's Silver Lining award, given to a business who renovates their building, was presented by Chamber President Tim Zigala to Eric, Steve and Sue Brinks of Upper Lakes Tire for a 40 foot by 50 foot addition and building renovation completed last year.



Photo by Dan Sanderson

Doug Meroney, the co-owner of Fannie Finn's, was presented with the Ambassador of the Year Award by Kim Milliken, chairwoman of the Grayling Regional Chamber of Commerce's Ambassadors. The Ambassadors welcome new businesses into the community and also recognize other chamber members with awards throughout the year.

New members for 4Q of 2004

Poulin Custom Builders, Roscommon, MI

Tri-Lakes Home Builders Association
PO 25
Roscommon, MI 48653
(989) 275-4759 (Phone & Fax)
www.tlha.org
email: tlha@tlha.org

Emil Kraus named Citizen of the Year at Awards Night

Continued from Page 1A

Kraus resumed his law career serving as the legal counsel for the Commonwealth Casualty Company, where he went on to attain the presidency of the company.

While he was trained to practice law, the love of retail trade held a warm place in Kraus'

heart.

Kraus opened the Northland Department Store in Grayling, which is currently occupied by Northern Concepts, which featured ladies clothing and material. Kraus also bought the store on the corner of Michigan Avenue and I-75 Business Loop, where he sold shoes, boots and clothing. He built the Ben Franklin store downtown in 1948, and would drive up on weekends from Detroit with merchandise and instructions for his employees.

Kraus returned to Grayling in 1964 and opened his law office downtown. He was elected to serve as probate judge for Crawford County in 1965, and served on the bench for 24 years.

Kraus was honored to serve on the Grayling State Bank's Board of Directors.

After his first wife died in 1967, Kraus married Laurine, and the couple had two daughters, Catherine and Margaret.

Kraus eventually closed the Northland Department store and Kraus Dry Goods Store downtown in order to open the Ben Franklin Store and Laurine's Department Store in the Grayling Mall. Both businesses stayed open over 25 years, with Laurine's Department Store closing in 1994 and the Ben Franklin store

closing in 1997.

Kraus said he enjoyed juggling family life, his judgeship, his law office and the retail stores.

"You had to be on the go to make a good living," he said.

Due to medical problems and his advancing age, Kraus closed his law office in 1997 and the Ben Franklin store downtown in 2004.

"One of Emil's greatest joys was talking and getting to know the residents of Grayling and the tourists that would come back year after year," Laurine said.

Bill Gannon, the owner of Gannon Broadcasting who purchased the Ben Franklin store last year, said recognizing Kraus for his contributions to Grayling was long overdue.

"I can't imagine anybody that has really made that much of an influence on our community than Emil," Gannon said. "It's 70 years of dedication, respect for this community and for the people that live here. He did everything and he was a major player for many years."

The Athena Award, which is given to a woman who demonstrates excellence in their profession and provides valuable service to their community, was given to Kay Cosgray.

Cosgray is a community liaison for Michigan Works. She is

also a member of the Kiwanis Club, the Grayling Uptown District Association, is chairwoman of the Crawford County Economic Development Partnership and president of the Crawford County Historical Society.

Prior to moving to Grayling, Cosgray has held several leadership roles including serving in the state legislature for four years and serving as the mayor of Swartz Creek before the age of 25. Cosgray was co-founder of the Swartz Creek Hometown Day, a event which is still being held, and helped obtain financing for the Swartz Creek Perkins Library/Senior Center and the Sports Creek Race Track.

Cosgray was taken aback when she learned she was receiving the award.

"I just feel totally honored," Cosgray said. "The Athena award is one of the greatest honors that any woman in the community could ever receive."

The Chamber's Silver Lining, given to a business who renovates their building, was presented to Upper Lakes Tire for a 40 foot by 50 foot addition and building renovation completed last year.

Doug Meroney, the co-owner of Fannie Finn's, was recognized with the Ambassador of the Year Award.

WE ARE MOVING TO SERVE YOU BETTER...
1107 E. MICHIGAN AVENUE
GRAYLING
OPEN...
JANUARY 31ST, 2005

- Skilled, experienced therapists on staff
- Over 105 years of combined experience
- On-time appointments
- Most patients seen within 24 hours
- Evening, lunchtime & morning appointments
- On-site exercise equipment
- Most insurance accepted & filed
- Ample free parking
- Handicapped accessible

"This is the best physical therapy I have ever had. I wish all of my previous experiences had been as positive."
-Jessica Scott

"My Care at Dynamic Physical Therapy has been outstanding. Pat and his staff are the best in their field with care and understanding that goes 'beyond' what they are required to do. And it works!"
-Nancy M. Walker

4 Convenient Locations to Serve You
Manistee: 231-723-5479 Cadillac: 231-876-0010
Grayling: 989-348-3027 Buckley: 831-269-8500
www.DynamicPT.Michigan.com

DDA board takes input on plans

Continued from Page 1A

County officials are in the preliminary stages of exploring a millage proposal to pay for new county offices.

Kay Cosgray, chairwoman of the Crawford County Economic Partnership, urged city officials to keep lines of communication open as various initiatives are being pursued.

"The uproar of displeasure if these issues hit at the same time will be significant if we don't see something get done," Cosgray said.

Bill Gannon, owner of Growler's Pub and Pizza, Bear's Den Pizzeria and the former Ben

Franklin store building, stressed that businesses that should be recruited should be ones that will serve local residents.

"It's critical that we have viable businesses in these storefronts rather than just any business in these storefronts," Gannon said.

George Stancil, a local real estate broker, urged DDA officials to address creating additional housing options downtown.

"Until people live there, there is never going to be a meaningful environment there," Stancil said.

While there was little discussion on how DDA projects would be financed, Heinert said he did

not believe Tax Increment Financing, which is the capture of increased taxes due to investment and inflation in the district, is a feasible option.

Dennis Palmer, a Grayling City Council Member, said officials may want to rethink using Tax Increment Financing since the Crawford County Board, the Crawford County Transportation Authority and Grayling Recreational are foregoing millage funds up to 2010 to make downtown viable again.

"That's a pretty significant chunk of change," Palmer said.

The Grayling City Council will consider formal adoption of the DDA plans next month.

Departure ceremony slated for 1071st

Continued from Page 1A

The training will be specific to operating in the Iraqi war zone as well as a refresher in common tasks.

"They will know everything they need to know and will be well trained soldiers just like their active duty counterparts," said Aaron Jenkins, spokesper-

son for the Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. "They're a great group of soldiers and we're sure they'll be successful in what they do."

B RECREATION

CRAWFORD COUNTY
AVALANCHE
...
PUBLISHING
IN GRAYLING
SINCE 1879

► Tuesday: Grayling Vikings 71, Gaylord Blue Devils 61

► Friday: Grayling Vikings 75, Elk Rapids Elks 53

Vikings move to 9-2 with two more wins at home

Varsity squad defeats Gaylord and Elk Rapids

■ Victory over Elks improves team's league record to 5-1

With victories over Gaylord and Elk Rapids last week on

their home court, the Vikings of Grayling High School improved their overall record to 9-2. The Vikings are 6-0 at home so far this season.

On Friday, the GHS varsity boys basketball team posted its ninth victory of the year with a

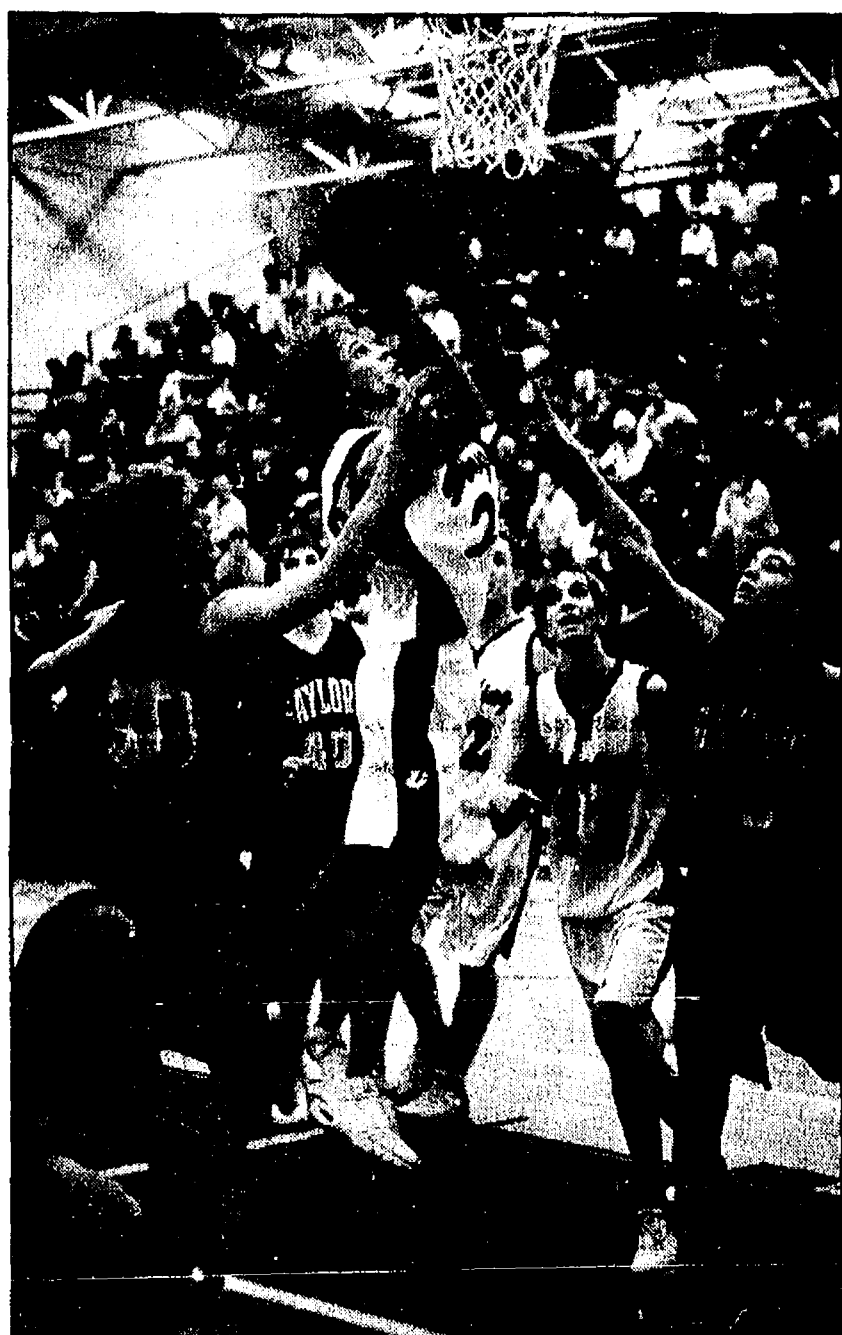
75-53 win over Elk Rapids.

Grayling got off to good start, outscoring the visiting Elks 21-9 in the opening quarter. GHS led 38-17 at halftime. The Vikings took a 55-34 advantage into the fourth quarter and won by 22, 75-53.

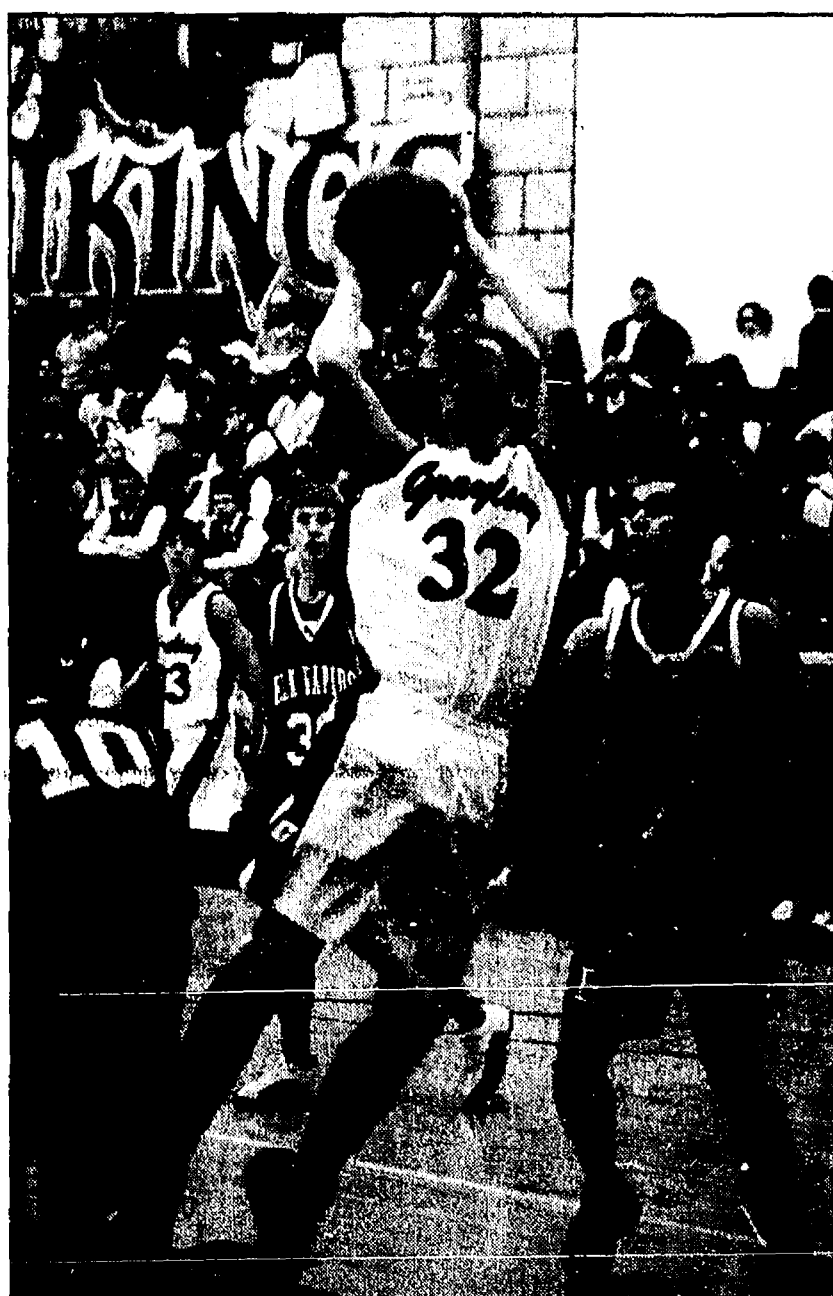
"Our focus tonight was energy and enthusiasm. I thought we didn't play with those on Tuesday. We got out of the box early and did a pretty good job in those categories," Coach

Continued on Page 2B

See "VIKINGS MOVE..."



Eli VanNuck drives to the basket for Grayling in last Tuesday's varsity boys basketball game vs. Gaylord.



Bobby Starks takes an inside shot for the Vikings in Friday night's league contest against Elk Rapids.

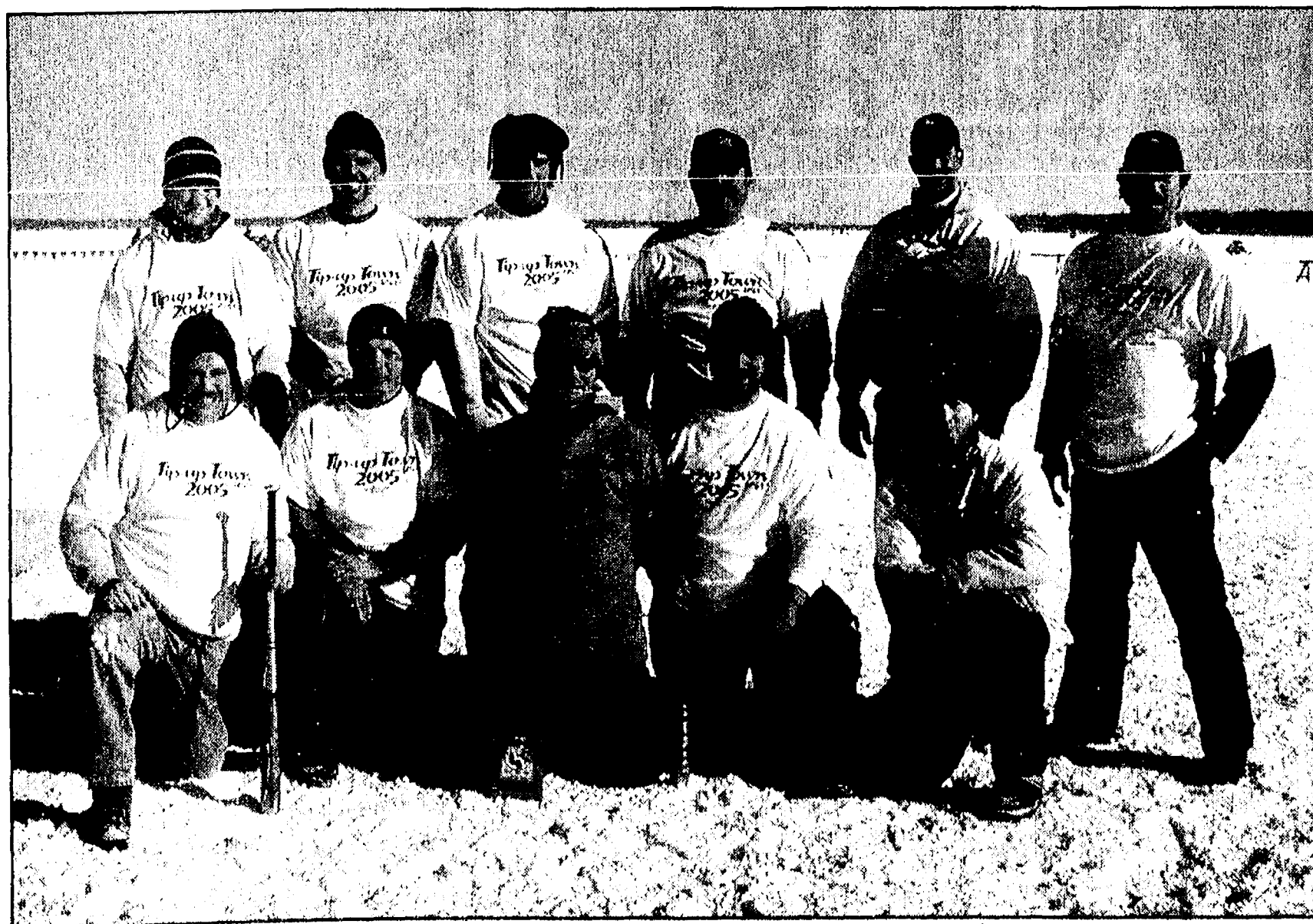
JV basketball team defeats Elks 40-34



Photo by Caleb Casey

Doug Slater goes up for a shot in last Friday's JV boys basketball game vs. Elk Rapids. Grayling won the contest by a final score of 40-34 with a 7-1 run in the final three minutes of the game. For more on the junior varsity team, see Page 4B.

Local team wins fifth Tip Up Town title



With a 9-3 victory (in extra innings) in Sunday afternoon's championship game, a team from Grayling won its fifth consecutive softball-on-ice tournament title at Houghton Lake's Tip Up Town festival. Pictured: (front, L to R) Darrell Metzger, Joel Mack, Dave Burr, Tom Barnes, Caleb Casey; (back, L to R) Travis Hulbert, Mark Burke, Corey Derenzy, Dale Metzger, Troy McDonald, Russ DeHart. Not pictured: Doug Woodworth, Travis Huber. The squad was sponsored by Big Gator Painting this year.

Ski teams improve in second league meet

■ Boys squad places 2nd and girls team takes 4th at Boyne

In their second league meet of the 2005 season, the GHS ski teams improved upon their scores from their first conference meet, with the boys team for Grayling placing 2nd overall and the girls team placing 4th.

The boys team finished 2nd behind league-leading Harbor Springs at Boyne Mountain on Thursday. The Vikings closed the gap on the Rams by 11 points this time around and extended their winning margin over 3rd place Elk Rapids from 18 to 32 points.

The Vikings were led by Patrick McNally, who placed 6th in slalom and 11th in giant slalom (GS). Jim Jansen placed 9th in both events. Adam Gilbert took 10th in slalom and 17th in GS. Jon Handy was 13th in slalom and 18th in GS. Trevor Clough placed 8th in slalom but did not finish the giant slalom after falling. Jim Hilbrecht placed 24th in GS and Andrew Hart was 30th in slalom.

"We need to improve in giant slalom more than slalom and

hopefully all the recent cold weather and snow making on the Bowl at Hanson Hills will allow us some better training," Coach Mike Wieland said.

The B team boys also improved their finishes. In GS, Hart placed 7th, Kelly Richards was 13th, Nathan Parens took 25th, and John Ventline finished 26th. In slalom, Hilbrecht took 5th, Richards placed 10th, and Ventline finished 22nd.

Grayling's girls team placed 3rd in slalom and 4th overall. The Vikings defeated Harbor Springs -- a team that finished 11 points ahead of GHS two weeks ago -- by one point this time around. The Vikings also cut the margin of victory for Charlevoix/East Jordan from 68 points to 20.

Last week, the girls team was led by Katie Baynam, who placed 7th in slalom and 8th in GS. Mallory Olson finished 14th and 15th in slalom and GS. Kassie McClain was 19th in slalom and 16th in GS. Erica Moggo placed 21st in slalom and 18th in GS. Gabby Calkins finished 24th in slalom and 19th in GS. Cassie Pizzi took 22nd in slalom and 21st in GS.

Continued on Page 3B

See "SKI TEAMS..."

Pizza Hut
ITALIAN BISTRO

We now deliver your favorite classic pizza, bread sticks & buffalo wings to your door.

Sun-Thurs • 4:00 - 11:00 p.m.
Fri-Sat • 4:00 - 11:30 p.m.

989.348.5565
Limited Delivery Area

Come see us at our new location:
2319 S. I-75 Business Loop

We'll pay you when your income stops.

Our plan is designed to provide you money when your income stops, if you are disabled from sickness or accident. With disability income protection from Auto-Owners Life Insurance, you're protected anywhere in the world, 24 hours a day, on or off the job. For more details, contact our agency today!

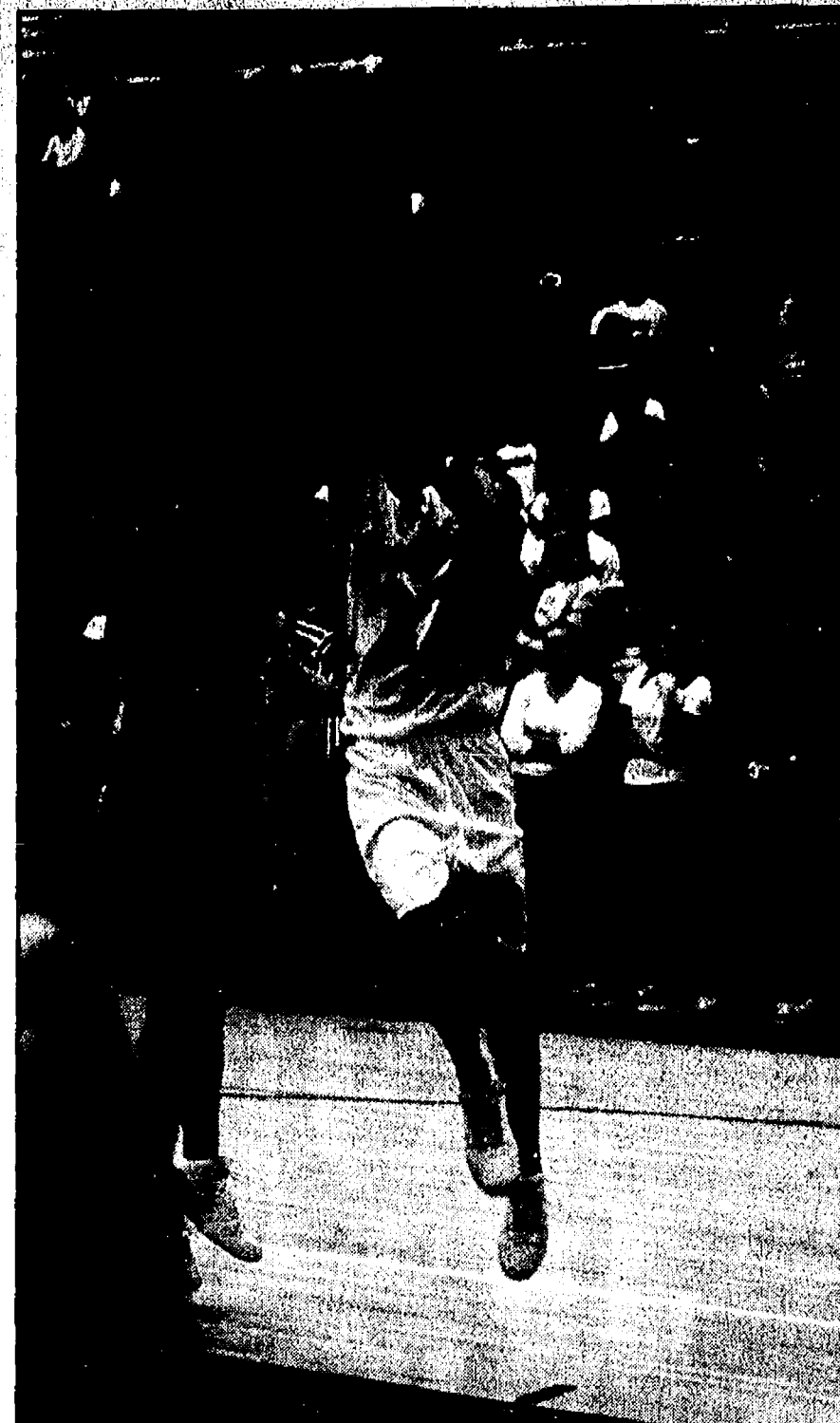
Auto-Owners Insurance
Life Home Car Business
The Problem Solver

EA **IE**
CORNELL AGENCY, INC. INSURANCE

P.O. Box 527
M-72 E. at I-75, Grayling
348-6761 • 1-800-666-8896



Reagan Schmidt handles the ball for the Vikings on Friday night.



Josh Hinkle drives to the basket in Friday's varsity basketball game vs. Gaylord.

Vikings move to 9-2 with two more wins

Continued from Page 1B
Rich Moffit said.

"Offensively, I thought Gib played a very good floor game and I thought his court vision as far as creating space was outstanding," Coach Moffit said. "Starks, Hinkle, and VanNuck did a great job of pressuring their perimeter guys. I also thought our big kids played well. I thought they played pretty smart underneath."

Gibson Tobin was the scoring leader for Grayling with 30

points. Eli VanNuck scored 11, Josh Hinkle had 8, Bobby Starks finished with 7, and Matt Swope added 7. Mike Boylan, Jim Boylan, Ryan Feldhauser, Zeke Hayes, Reagan Schmidt, and Zach Dean also scored points for the Vikings.

Rebounding leaders for GHS were Starks (9) and Hinkle (8). VanNuck had 3 assists.

The win over Elk Rapids improved Grayling's Lake Michigan Conference record to 5-1.

On Tuesday, the Vikings defeated the visiting Blue Devils of Gaylord 71-61 in a non-conference contest.

Grayling trailed 15-12 at the

end of the first quarter but led by 10, 36-26, at halftime with a 24-11 second period. The Vikings led 52-41 after three quarters and won by 10, 71-61.

"We played well in spurts tonight," Coach Moffit said. "I thought that Hinkle, Starks, and Schmidt provided us with some energy at the defensive end of the court and that translated into some easy baskets. Our transition offense was also decent. We did a nice job of running lanes and hitting the open man."

"This was a tough game for our kids because of exams. Emotionally, you could tell that our usual spark was missing on the court," Coach Moffit said.

"Our free throw shooting was not very good (13 of 27). We need to improve in this area as we head into the meat of our schedule."

Leading scorers for Grayling were Tobin (21), VanNuck (14), Hinkle (13), and Starks (10). Schmidt, Dean, J. Boylan, and Josh Millikin also scored points for GHS.

Hinkle and J. Boylan finished with 7 rebounds apiece. Tobin had 6 assists and 7 steals. Hinkle had 4 steals.

The Vikings will host Traverse City St. Francis on Friday, January 28. Due to a scheduling change, the team's January 25 game at Kalkaska will be played on Tuesday, February 1.



(Left) Jim Boylan takes an inside shot for Grayling in Friday night's contest vs. Elk Rapids. (Right) Matt Swope looks to shoot against the Elks.



9th grade team wins one, loses one at Harbor Springs

Volleyball squad defeats Harbor Springs Rams on Monday

Grayling won one series and lost one last Monday in a three-team freshman girls volleyball meet at Harbor Springs.

The Vikings defeated the Harbor Springs Rams 25-19, 25-22 to win the three-game series 2-0.

"Great teamwork," Coach Samara Sabin said. "We set it up and put it down. The girls were very talkative and moved well. We proved ourselves in these games."

Team MVPs for the Harbor Springs series were Shentelle

Apps, Rachel Ward, Tiffany Davis, and Renee Clair, Coach Sabin said.

In their series against Charlevoix at Harbor Springs, the Vikings lost a best-of-three set 25-16, 25-19. Ward was the team MVP for the series, Coach Sabin said.

"Charlevoix is a good team. We didn't communicate or move as well as we should have," Coach Sabin said.

On Thursday, January 13, the Vikings lost a best-of-three series to Traverse City St. Francis 2-1 at GHS. St. Francis won 25-18, 25-20 and Grayling won 15-10.

"The freshmen played very well versus TCSF. They've always been a good team to play and we held up with them, win-

ning one game," Coach Sabin said.

Team MVPs for the TCSF series were Monica Peters, Rachel Doremire, Apps, and Ward.

On December 16, the freshman volleyball team lost a series at home vs. East Jordan 2-1. The Red Devils won game one 25-15 and game three 25-9. Grayling took game two of the meet by a final score of 25-11.

"The girls set it up and put it down every chance they had. We made an effort to get three touches each time we had the ball. I'm very pleased with the girls," Coach Sabin said. "We need to work on serves and communication."

H M I S P E C I A L T I E S

INTRODUCES
Concrete
Countertops
"Concrete solutions to your everyday needs"

- Licensed & Insured
- Multiple Color Options
- Texture Stamping Available
- New Construction or Renovation
- An Affordable Alternative to Solid Surface and Granite

6811 M-93 • Grayling
989-348-8179
Fax: 989-348-5096



Jesse CdeBaca competes against a Pottsville wrestler at Saturday's Ithaca Invitational.



Kevin LaTreille (160) receives a first place medal for winning his weight class at Ithaca on Saturday.

SNOW SERVICES

\$96 US

Includes: Snowblowing, Salt, Snow Tires and Gasoline Package

Call today! 1-800-242-9287

Wrestling team defeats Hale, Pinconning

Four Vikings earn medals at Saturday's Ithaca tournament

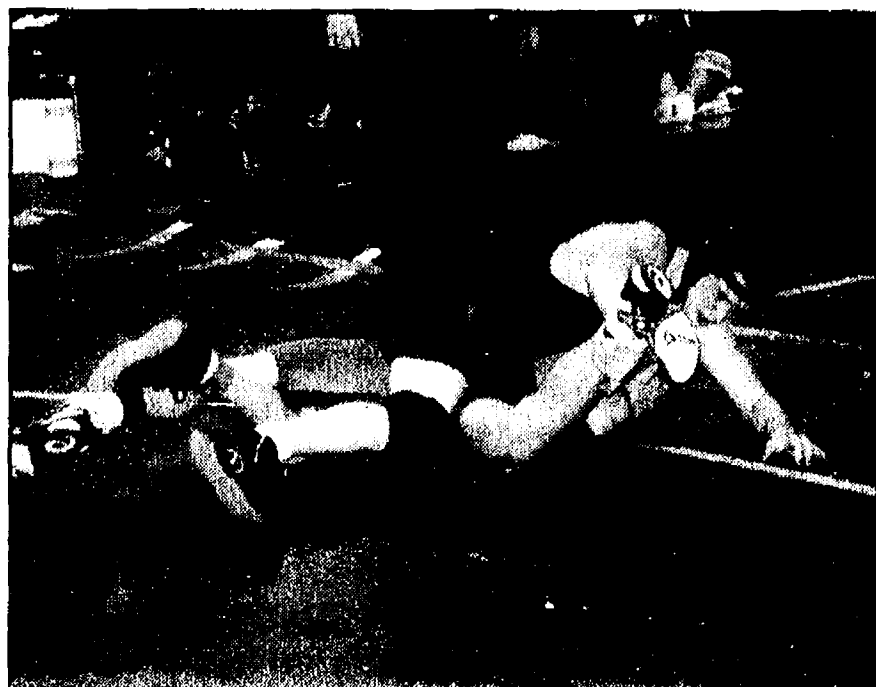
The GHS wrestling team defeated Hale and the host Pinconning Spartans in a double dual meet last Thursday.

The Vikings outscored Hale 58-21. Ben Brown (103), Jeff Harwood (119), Eric Madill (125), TJ Cardoza (140), Jeff Bancroft (145), Kevin LaTreille (160), Troy Wilson (171), Jesse CdeBaca (189), Matt Letts (215), and Bill Stewart (275) all scored team points for the Vikings.

The Vikings then wrestled against Pinconning and won 51-27.

Brown (103), Harwood (119), Madill (125), Cody Malone (130), Cardoza (140), Bancroft (145), Doug Webb (152), Wilson (171), and Dan CdeBaca (275) all scored team points for GHS.

On Saturday, January 22, the



Jeff Bancroft grapples with a Chippewa Hills wrestler at the Ithaca tournament.

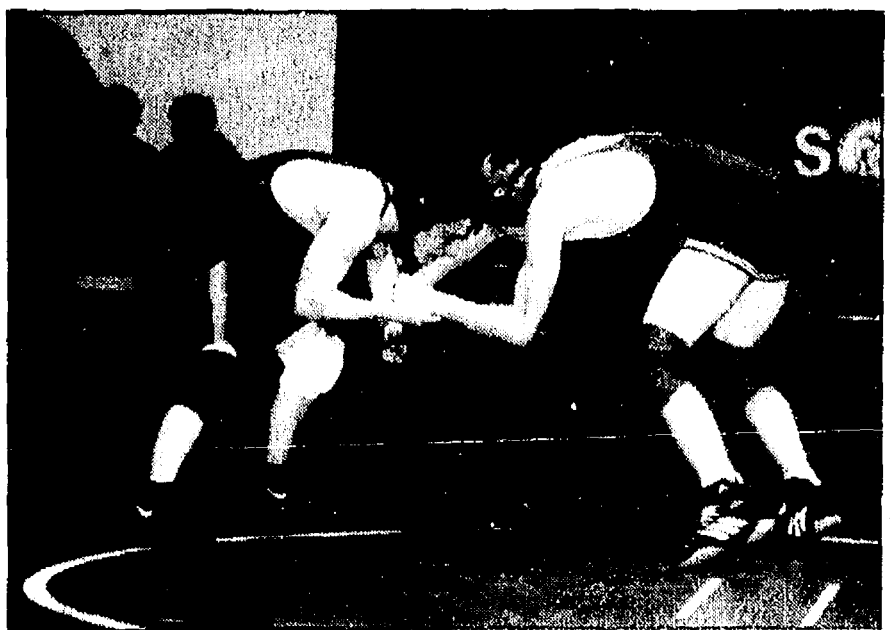
team competed in the Ithaca Invitational. Four Vikings earned medals at the event: LaTreille (160), 1st; Brown (103), 5th; Bancroft (145), 5th; Stewart (275), 5th.

Also scoring team points for

Photos courtesy of Bill Rosencrans

Grayling at Ithaca were: Malone (130), Cardoza (140), Webb (152), Wilson (171), and J. CdeBaca (189).

The Vikings will host Charlevoix and Traverse City St. Francis at 6 p.m. at GHS on Thursday, January 27. The meet will include parent's night.



Doug Webb wrestles an opponent from Rochester on Saturday.

Ski teams improve in second league meet

Continued from Page 1B

"It was good to place five of our six boys in the top third of the slalom competition," Coach Wieland said. "The two freshmen girls improved a lot this week, also feeling more at home on Boyne's hills where they have raced before."

The Vikings will be back at Boyne on Thursday, January 27, at 4:30 p.m. for another league meet.

Paul Olson
Municipal Underwriters
of Michigan

Vikings of the Week

Katie Baynham
Skiing
Coach: Mike Wieland
KATIE BAYNHAM & PATRICK MCINALLY

Katie led the girls team in both events last week, placing 7th and 8th for a low point total of 15. Patrick led the boys in slalom with a 6th place finish and took 11th in giant slalom for the team's lowest point total (17).

Wendy's
H.S. Heisman
Award Sponsor

Viking of the Week

Kevin LaTreille
Wrestling
Coach: Don Ferguson
KEVIN LATREILLE

Kevin won a championship in his weight division (160) at Saturday's Ithaca Invitational.

January Is ...

NATIONAL
eye
care
MONTH

This Ad is Sponsored by:

DR. MARK NOSS
Developmental Optometrist
COMPLETE FAMILY EYE CARE FOR OVER 20 YEARS

Large Selection of Frames & Contacts
Treatment of Vision & Eye Disease
Most Insurances Accepted
NEW PATIENTS WELCOME
Monday-Friday 9am-5pm
110 E. Michigan Ave., Grayling
989-348-2833

AUSABLE EYE CARE
DEAN & AUBRY OPTOMETRISTS P.C.

Dr. William Dean
Dr. Robert Aubry
Dr. Peter Fedor

Providing Quality Eye Care For Over 42 Years
989-348-3211
904 Mich. Ave., Grayling

ALPINE EYE CARE
OPHTHALMOLOGY
Surgery and Diseases of the Eye

JEFFREY K. CHAULK, M.D., P.C.
WILLIAM R. SHOULDICE, O.D.
JULIE L. SAMU, O.D.

Complete medical and surgical eye care services including:
Contact lens evaluations
Diabetic retinopathy
Glaucoma management
Macular degeneration evaluation and treatment
Cataract and cornea

1200 N. Down River Rd. • Grayling
989-348-8689

The Ole Barn
6811 M-72 West Grayling 348-8999

ENTERTAINMENT
Jan. 28 & Jan. 29
"Detour"
Thursdays - Karaoke
Fish Fry, Prime Rib,
B.B.Q. Ribs, Full Menu

Catering - Take Out Available - Booking Parties & Events

Tanger Outlets
Bargain Hunting At Its Best

Monday - Saturday
9am - 9pm
Sundays
10am - 7pm

expanded center hours
SPECIAL PROMOTIONS | JANUARY 2-FEBRUARY 28

\$5 After 5pm
FREE AFTER



Jeremiah Bootz takes an inside shot for Grayling against Gaylord on Tuesday.



Nick Parkinson pulls up for a jump shot vs. Gaylord in last Tuesday's JV game.

Photos by Caleb Casey

JV basketball team defeats Elks 40-34

■ GHS converts 20 of 25 free throw shots in six-point win

The GHS junior varsity boys basketball team defeated the Elk Rapids Elks 40-34 in Grayling last Friday.

The game was tied at 9-9 after one quarter. The Vikings led 22-13 at halftime and had a 33-21 advantage going into the fourth period.

Elk Rapids tied the game with a 12-0 run in the first half of the fourth quarter, but Grayling outscored the Elks 7-1 down the stretch (with a 7 for 8 performance from the free throw line)

and won the game by a final score of 40-34.

"We learned our lesson from the Gaylord game and shot 20 for 25 from the free throw line," Coach Chris Kucharek said.

Jeremiah Bootz (8), Rocky McNamara (7), and Doug Slater (7) were the leading scorers for Grayling. Nick Parkinson had 12 rebounds and 4 assists.

On Tuesday, the JV Vikings lost to Gaylord 61-49 in Grayling.

The Blue Devils of Gaylord had a one-point edge at halftime. Grayling trailed by five, 42-37, going into the fourth quarter but Gaylord pulled away down the stretch and won by 12, 61-49.

"The kids played their hearts

out. We beat Gaylord in every hustle category. We were very aggressive on defense and offense. We had a season-high 15 steals and out-rebounded a much taller Gaylord team," Coach Kucharek said. "On offense, we were pretty aggressive going to the basket and as a result we shot 31 free throws. The only negative side to the game is we shot 12 for 31 from the free throw line and that cost us the game."

Parkinson posted a double-double for Grayling with 13 points, 11 rebounds, and 5 steals. Slater scored 12 points, Jason Drudge had 8 points, and McNamara scored 7.

The Vikings host TC St. Francis on Friday, January 28.



(Left) Mitch Hernandez drives to the basket for Grayling on Tuesday night. (Right) Jason Drudge gets set to shoot against Gaylord.



Was Your New Years Resolution To Save Money?

SCHEDULE AN EYE EXAMINATION AND RECEIVE EITHER

| | |
|---|--|
| Complete Pair Of Single Vision Eyeglasses for | Complete Pair Of Lined Bifocals Eyeglasses for |
| \$109.⁹⁵* | \$149.⁹⁵* |
| Lighter • Thinner • Resorbable | Lighter • Thinner • Resorbable |
| Expires February 28, 2005 | Expires February 28, 2005 |

Dr. Mark D. Noss
Grayling Vision Center
110 Michigan Ave. • Grayling
Call (989) 348-2833

*All options additional charge, not combined with insurances or discount programs

Follow Your Dream and Earn A Diploma In...

Massage Therapy (600 Hours)
Therapeutic Body Work Practitioner

All classes meet on weekends, once a month
Fri, • 5-9 p.m. and Sat, & Sun, • 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Individual Classes also available in:
Herbology • Aromatherapy • Reflexology • Homeopathy • Live Food Preparation Nutrition • Light Healing Touch and More.

Naturopathic Institute for Therapies & Education
1410 S. Mission Street • Mt. Pleasant, Michigan • (989) 773-1714
Accredited by the American Naturopathic Certification Board

Sign Up Now For Classes Starting In February In Grayling



Ryan Cooper boxes out on a rebound attempt.

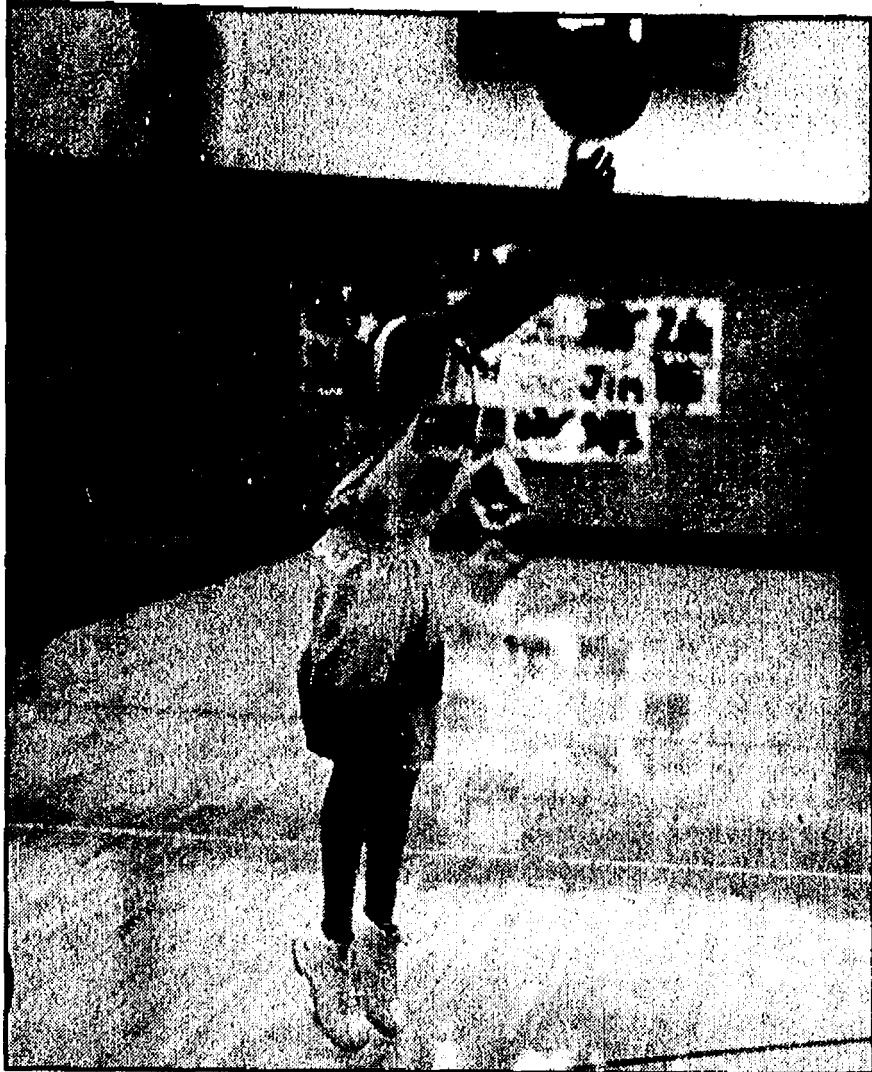
9th grade team falls to Gaylord, Elk Rapids

Grayling High School's freshman boys basketball team lost to Elk Rapids and Gaylord in home games last week.

On Tuesday, the Vikings lost to the Blue Devils of Gaylord 56-28.

On Friday, the Elk Rapids Elks defeated Grayling's 9th grade team 57-21.

On Friday, January 28, the Vikings will host Traverse City St. Francis at 4:15 p.m.



Josh Stapleton shoots from three-point range for Grayling on Tuesday.



Photos by Caleb Casey

Isaac VanNuck takes a jump shot for Grayling in Tuesday's game vs. Gaylord.



(Left) Justin Denno looks to shoot against Gaylord. (Right) Richard Schreiber handles the ball for the Vikings on Tuesday.



LEGAL ACTION

Foreclosure Sale

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY. MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by David M. Zarnick, a married man, joined by his spouse, Sharon K. Zarnick, to Westmark Mortgage Corporation, mortgagee, dated March 8, 1999 and recorded May 12, 1999 in Liber 481, Page 262, and Servicer's Affidavit to correct the legal description dated 02-27-04 and recorded 03-02-04 in Liber 666 on page 612, Crawford County Records. There is claimed to be due on such mortgage the sum of Thirty-Four Thousand Five Hundred Eight and 93/100 Dollars (\$34,508.03) including interest at the rate of 12.63% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in the mortgage and the statutes of the State of Michigan, notice is hereby given that the mortgage will be fore-closed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the front door of the County Building in Grayling in Crawford County, Michigan at 10:00 a.m. on February 9, 2005. The premises are located in the Township of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as: The West 1/2 of the West 1/2 of the North-East 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of the section 17, town 26 north, range 2 West, lying on the South side of Highway M-72, Township of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan. The redemption period shall be 12 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale in the event a 3rd party buys the property and there is a simultaneous resolution with the borrower. In that event, your damages, if any, are limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale. Dated: January 6, 2005 ORLAND ASSOCIATES PC Attorneys for DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY AS TRUSTEE, FKA BANKERS TRUST COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA, N.A. AS TRUSTEE, AS Assignee P.O. Box 5041 Troy, MI 48067-5041 (248) 457-1000 File No. 199.1415 ASAP625820 01/06, 01/13, 01/20, 01/27

Notice Of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Timothy G. Blackmer and Janice D. Blackmer, husband and wife, original mortgagor(s), to Citizens Bank, Mortgagee, dated March 4, 2002, and recorded on March 20, 2002 in Liber 573 on Page 604, in Crawford county records, Michigan, and assigned by said Mortgagee to Federal National Mortgage Association as assignee by an assignment, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Two Hundred Fifteen Thousand Four Hundred Twenty-Three And 09/100 Dollars (\$215,423.09), including interest at 7.125% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the Front door of the County building in Grayling at 10:00 AM, on February 9, 2005.

Said premises are situated in Township of Maple Forest, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 11, Plat of Greenacre Subdivision, Maple Forest Township, Crawford County, Michigan, according to the plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 2 of Plats, Page 40, Crawford County Records.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: January 6, 2005 For more information, please call: FC R 248.593.1305 Trott & Trott, P.C. Attorneys For Federal National Mortgage Association 30400 Telegraph Rd Ste 200 Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822 File #043395F01

Notice Of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Covenant Capital, Inc., A Michigan Corporation, P.O. Box 814, Cadillac, MI 49601, Mortgagor to Scott Day and Cleo Day, husband and wife, 2239 Parma, Grayling, MI 49738, said mortgage, dated February 24, 2000, and recorded on March 14, 2000 in the office of the Register of Deeds for the County of Crawford and State of Michigan in Liber

503 Page 272, Crawford County records, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due, at the date stated below, for principal and interest, the sum of Fourteen Thousand Eight Hundred and 00/100(\$14,800) Dollars, including interest accruing at the rate of 10.25% Per Cent per annum. No suit or proceedings at law or in equity have been instituted to recover the debts secured by said mortgage or any part thereof. Now, therefore, by virtue of the powers of sale contained in the mortgage and pursuant to the statutes of the State of Michigan in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that on February 9, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. (1 week after 4 weeks publication) at the front door of the Crawford County Courthouse, 200 W. Michigan Ave., Grayling, Michigan the mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale at public auction to the highest bidder of the premises legally described in said mortgage as:

The redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale as the mortgagee has determined that the property has been abandoned pursuant to MCL 600.3241A, except that if the mortgagor provides notice of the fact that the property has not been abandoned pursuant to the statute, then the period of redemption shall be 6 months from the date of the foreclosure sale.

Dated: 12-29-04 Attorneys: Bloomquist & Associates, P.L.L.C. Todd H. Nye P.O.Box 708 Grayling, MI 49738 989-348-6141

Notice Of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

NOTICE TO PROSPECTIVE PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded or set aside by the foreclosing mortgagee. In such event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to a return of the bid amount tendered at such sale, together with interest at the rate set forth herein.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default having been made in the terms and conditions of a certain mortgage made by Debra A. Legg, a single woman, Mortgagor, of 11538 Steckert Bridge Road, Roscommon, Michigan 48653, to Chemical Bank West, a Michigan banking corporation, of 115 Mitchell Street, Cadillac, Michigan 49601, Mortgagee, dated August 20, 2001, and recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for the County of Crawford and State of Michigan, on August 21, 2001, in Liber 550 at Pages 005 through 019, inclusive,

of the Crawford County Records, and assigned to Chemical Bank and Trust Company, a Michigan banking corporation, by virtue of an Assignment of Mortgage which was dated August 20, 2001 and recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for the County of Crawford on August 21, 2001 in Liber 550, at pages 020 through 021, inclusive, of the Crawford County Records, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due for principal, interest and late fees, as of the date of this notice, the sum of Twenty-six Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty-eight and Forty Hundredths Dollars (\$26,728.40).

No suit or proceedings at law or in equity having been instituted to recover the debt secured by said mortgage or any part thereof, whereby the power of sale contained in said mortgage has become operative

NOW THEREFORE, by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, and pursuant to the statutes of the State of Michigan in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that on Wednesday, February 16, 2005, at 10:00 a.m., said mortgage will be foreclosed in the lobby of the Crawford County Courthouse, in the Grayling, State of Michigan, that being the place where the Circuit Court for the County of Crawford is held, by a sale at public auction, to the highest bidder, of the premises described in said mortgage or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the amount due, as foreclosed, on said mortgage with interest thereon at Six and Seventy-five Hundredths percent (6.75%) per annum and all legal costs, charges and expenses, including the attorney's fees allowed by law, and also any taxes and insurance which may be paid by the Mortgagee on or before the date of said sale which may be necessary to protect its interest in the premises.

Said premises are situated in Township of South Branch, in the County of Crawford and State of Michigan, are commonly known as 11538 Steckert Bridge Road, Roscommon, Michigan 48653, and are more particularly described as follows: The South 43 feet of the North 215 feet of the East 133 Feet of the Northeast 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4, section 31, T25N, R4W.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned pursuant to MCLA 600.3241a, the property may be redeemed during the thirty (30) days immediately following such sale.

Dated: January 12, 2005 Jonathan E. Lauderback (P51313) Currie Kendall, PLC 6024 Eastman Avenue Midland, Michigan 48640 (989) 839-0300 Attorneys for Chemical Bank and Trust Company, assignee of Chemical Bank West

Cost-Effective Statewide Coverage

Michigan Newspapers Inc.
827 N. Washtenaw
Lansing, MI 48206
Phone: 517.333.1111
Fax: 517.333.1112
www.michigannewspapers.com
wendy@mn.com

Place your 2x2 display ad and reach over 3.5 million readers for just \$999! Place a 25 word classified and reach over 4 million readers for just \$299! Contact this Newspaper or Wendy and Christine at Michigan Newspapers Inc.

1-800-541-3974

POLE BUILDINGS & GARAGES

YOUR CHOICE OF ROOFING & SIDING

Top of the line quality
Many Sizes &
Options Available

FROM BEGINNING
PERMITS TO CLEAN-UP
WE DO IT ALL!

4050 Industrial Dr • Harrison
www.tomspolebuildings.com

Call For a Pre-Estimate Today!

Grayling Insurance Agency



L-R Dawn McGee, Jeanne Bulmer & Andrea Lesh

Representing
• Citizens • Auto Owners



Responsive • Reliable • Independent

Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt, and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Default has occurred in a mortgage made by Robbin J. Meyer and Karen L. Brausa, a single man and a single woman, to First National Bank of America, dated August 4, 2003 and recorded on September 29, 2003 in Liber 654 page 93, Crawford County records. The mortgage holder has begun no proceedings to recover any part of the debt, which is now \$30,471.32.

The mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the property, at public auction to the highest bidder, on Wednesday, February 16, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. local time, at the front door of Crawford County Courthouse, Grayling, Michigan. The property will be sold to pay the amount then due on the mortgage, together with interest at 14 per cent, foreclosure costs, attorney fees, and also any taxes and insurance that the mortgage holder

-13-20-27-2-9

pays before the sale.

The property is located in South Branch Township, Crawford County, Michigan, and is described in the mortgage as:

The North 1/2 of the following described parcel 12: beginning at the West 1/4 corner of Section 20, Town 25 North, Range 2 West; thence North 0°15'03" East along section line 662.45 feet; thence South 89°15'17" East 659.00 feet; thence South 0°15'03" West 661.3 feet; thence North 89°21'15" West along 1/4 line 658.99 feet to the point of beginning; being a part of the South 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 20, Town 25 North, Range 2 West, including a 1975 Colonade Mobile Home (Serial #N7087).

The redemption period will be one year from the date of sale.

Date: January 6, 2005

Joseph B. Backus, attorney for mortgage holder
P.O. Box 794, East Lansing, MI 48826
517-337-1617

-13-20-26-3

PROPERTY OWNERS WITHIN 300 FEET

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing of the Crawford County Planning Commission will be held on Wednesday, February 2, 2005 at 7:00 pm in the Circuit Court Room of the County Building.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to hear comments on:

Case# PU050001 Requesting storage of explosives in an ATF approved storage container for use in the oil fields by state licensing. Property is zoned LDR with a Special Use by County Zoning Board for mining (Gravel/Sand Pit).

Petitioner: John Hartman
10957 Pines Trail Rd.
Roscommon, MI 48653

The above case refers to the following described property:
11407 Steckert Bridge Rd.
Roscommon, MI 48653

Property Code: 20-062-032-007-020-00
Zoning District: LDR

All documents are available for review at, and comments should be sent to:

Crawford County Building & Zoning Department
200 W. Michigan Ave. - Annex Building
Grayling, MI 49738

Joseph Duran - Director

LEGAL ACTION

Foreclosure Notice

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THIS PURPOSE. IF YOU ARE IN THE MILITARY, PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER LISTED BELOW.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by: Alice M. Sheldon, an Unmarried Woman to Hamilton Mortgage Company, an Arizona Corporation Mortgagee, dated May 6, 2002, and recorded May 14, 2002 in Liber 581 Page 359, Crawford County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage was assigned to JPMorgan Chase Bank as Trustee, by assignment dated May 10, 2002 and recorded February 11, 2003 in Liber 619, Page 438 on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Seventy-Five Thousand Three Hundred Five Dollars and Seven Cents (\$76,305.07) including interest 8.375% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front door of the County Building in Grayling, MI at 10:00 a.m., on Wednesday February 23, 2005.

Said premises are situated in City of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as: The North 1/2 of Lots 11 and 12, Block 10, Hadley's Amended Addition to the Village (now City) of Grayling, according to the Plat thereof as recorded in Liber 1 of Plats, Page 8, Crawford County Records.

Commonly known as 301 Elm Street, Grayling, MI 49738

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: January 12, 2005
JP Morgan Chase Bank as Trustee,
Assignee of Mortgagee
Attorneys: Potestivo & Associates, P.C.

811 South Blvd, Suite 100
Rochester Hills, MI 48307
(248) 844-5123
File# 04-30916

Notice Of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

ATTN. PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Christine Timmony, An Adult Woman and Jason Fik, A Single Man, original mortgagor(s), to First National Bank of Gaylord, Mortgagee, dated April 16, 2003, and recorded on

April 21, 2003 in Liber 629 on Page 315 in Crawford County records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Forty-Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy-Four And 06/100 Dollars. (\$49,974.06), including interest at 5.875% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front door of the County Building in Grayling at 10:00 a.m., on February 23, 2005.

Said premises are situated in City of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as: East 1/2 of Lots of 5 and 6, Block 22, of original Plat of the Village (Now City) of Grayling, Crawford County, State of Michigan, according to the Recorded Plat thereof Recorded in Liber 01 of Plats, Page 02, Crawford County Records.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: January 20, 2005
For more information, please call:
FCF 248.593.1313
Trott & Trott, P.C.
(989) 839-0300

Attorneys for Independent Bank f/k/a First National Bank of Gaylord
30400 Telegraph Rd. Ste. 200
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822

File# 045501F01

Notice Of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

Robert A. Tremain & Associates, P.C. is a debt collector and we are attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Ronald L. Trojanek and Laura L. Trojanek, husband and wife, to FIRST FRANKLIN FINANCIAL CORPORATION, EXISTING UNDER THE LAWS OF DELAWARE, Mortgagee, dated October 11, 2002, and recorded on November 8, 2002 in Liber 606 on Page 235, CRAWFORD county records, Michigan, and assigned by said mortgagee to NATIONAL CITY HOME LOAN SERVICES, INC., by an assignment dated December 1, 2004, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Seventy Four Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty Three And 19/100 Dollars (\$74,733.19), including interest at 7.625% per annum with adjustable rate rider.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front door of the County Building Grayling, MI at 10:00 AM, on February 23, 2005.

Said premises are situated in TOWNSHIP OF GRAYLING, CRAWFORD County, Michigan, and are described as: LOT 5, WOODHURST SUBDIVISION, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN LIBER 05 OF PLATS, PAGE 05, CRAWFORD COUNTY RECORDS.

The redemption period shall be 6

months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: January 20, 2005

ATTORNEY FOR:

Assignee of Mortgagee

Robert A. Tremain & Associates, P.C.

401 South Old Woodward Avenue

Suite 300

Birmingham, MI 48009-6616

For information please call:

(248) 540-7701

NATIONAL CITY HOME LOAN SERVICES, INC.

Assignee of Mortgagee

-20-27-3-10

STATE OF MICHIGAN

IN THE 46TH CIRCUIT COURT

FOR THE COUNTY OF

CRAWFORD

200 WEST MICHIGAN AVENUE

GRAYLING, MICHIGAN 49738

FRANK J. DEPA and MARGARET M. DEPA,

husband and wife,

Plaintiffs,

Case No.:04-6357-CH

v

ROYAL HAIGHT,

Defendant.

ROBERTA ECKERT CHRISPELL,

P46479

Attorney for Plaintiffs

3225 W. Houghton Lake Dr.

Houghton Lake, MI 48629

(989)366-8177

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE BY SALE

Default having been made in the conditions of a certain land contract made on the date of July 27, 1995, by Royal Haight, as Purchaser, to Frank J. Depa and Margaret M. Depa, husband and wife, as Sellers, upon which land contract there is claim to be due and unpaid at the date of this Notice the sum of Five Thousand Three Hundred Twelve Dollars and One Cent (\$5,312.01), plus other allowable costs including reasonable attorney fees, real property taxes, and insurance;

Further, no suit or proceeding at law or in equity having been instituted to recover the debt or any part of the debt, secured by said land contract and the power of sale being contained in said land contract having become operative by reason of such default;

NOW THEREFORE, notice is being given that on the 24th day of February, 2005, at 10:00 a.m. in the forenoon at the main front door of the Crawford County Courthouse, Grayling, Michigan, that being the place for holding the Circuit Court for said County, there will be offered for sale and sold to the highest bidder at public sale, for the purpose of satisfying the amounts due and unpaid on said land contract with interest there on at the rate of Ten (10%) Percent, together with legal costs and charges of sale, provided by law and in said land contract. The land and the premises described in said land contract are located in the State of Michigan, County of Crawford, Township of Grayling, and further described as follows:

The North 1/2 of the South 1/2 of the south 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 and the South 1/2 of the North 1/2 of the South 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4, all being in section 25, Town 26 North,

Range 3 West, Excepting 33 feet off the East side for road purposes. Consensus known as: Route 1, Box 1743-E, Grayling, MI 49738

The redemption period shall be six months from the date of sale. The property may be redeemed by paying the amount bid at the sale, plus interest at the rate of Ten (10%) Percent, and any fees, taxes, or other unpaid encumbrances on the property from the date of sale.

The property is occupied as one parcel and must be sold as one parcel.

Roberta Eckert-Chrispell P46479

Attorney for Frank J. Depa and Margaret M. Depa

3225 W. Houghton Lake Dr.

Houghton Lake, MI 48629

-13-20-27-3-10

Notice Of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Mary Margaret Stone, a married person, original mortgagor(s), to Irwin Mortgage Corporation, Mortgagee, dated February 7, 2001, and recorded on February 12, 2001 in Liber 528 on Page 494, and rerecorded on March 15, 2001 in Liber 531 on Page 488, and modified by agreement dated April 22, 2003, and recorded on May 20, 2003 in Liber 635 on Page 134, and assigned by said Mortgagee to MidFirst Bank, a Federally Chartered Savings Association as assignee by an assignment, in Crawford county records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Sixty-Six Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty-Five And 97/100 Dollars (\$66,865.97), including interest at 8.25% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front door of the County Building in Grayling at 10:00 AM, on March 2, 2005.

Said premises are situated in Township of South Branch, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as: The East 99 feet of the West 1/2 of the West 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 28, Town 25 North, Range 2 West.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: January 27, 2005

For more information, please call:

FC M 248.593.1306

Trott & Trott, P.C.

Attorneys For MidFirst Bank, a Federally Chartered Savings Association

30400 Telegraph Rd Ste 200

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Grayling City Council will hold a public hearing concerning the Michigan Economic Development Corporation funding under the Michigan Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG). Funds from this grant were used to conduct a Downtown Economic and Market Feasibility Study. This project has been completed and the public hearing will allow residents and property owners to make comments regarding the findings.

The public hearing will be held on Monday January 31, 2005, at 7:30 p.m., at the Grayling City Hall, located at 1020 City Boulevard, Grayling, Michigan.

All interested persons are invited to attend this public hearing, especially persons of low and moderate income and those living within the project area.

Michele Moshier, City Clerk

NOTICE SOUTH BRANCH TOWNSHIP

Under the provisions of the Freedom of Information and Open Meetings Acts, the Township of South Branch does hereby establish that there will be one (1) regular monthly meeting held by the Township Board as follows:

1. All meetings will be held at the Township Hall, 5245 N. M-18, Roscommon.

2. Meetings will be held on the second (2nd) Tuesday of each month and will commence promptly at 7:00 p.m.

3. Dates of the regular meetings are as follows:

April 12, 2005 May 10, 2005 June 14, 2005

July 12, 2005 August 9, 2005 September 13, 2005

October 11, 2005 November 8, 2005 December 13, 2005

January 10, 2006 February 14, 2006 March 14, 2006

Annual Meeting: March 14, 2006, after Regular Board Meeting

A summary of the Adopted Budget for 2005-2006 and Financial Statement for year ending March 31, 2006, are available for public inspection at the South Branch Township Hall Located at 5245 N. M-18, Roscommon.

South Branch Township will be taking applications for all job openings that might occur. Please feel free to call the office at (989) 275-8232 and ask for Laura and/or Sue.

Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822
File #019233F03

SYNOPSIS GRAYLING TOWNSHIP BOARD

Regular Meeting January 12, 2005

Members Present: Shawn Krays, Dennis Long, Monica Ashton, Terry Wright.

Members Absent: O'Mara

Others Present: Bill Nicholas, Josephine Edelman, Brian Riehle, Barb & John Wotring, Robert Dixon, Jay L. Stephan, Bill Lowes, Ken Riehle, Dan Sanderson, Lacey Stephan III, Monte Burnmeister.

Supervisor Wright called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Motion by Long, second by Krays, to approve minutes of November 29, 2004 Special Meeting as presented. Ayes; four, Nays; none, Absent; one. Motion carried.

2. Motion by Long, second by Krays, to approve minutes of December 8, 2005 Regular Meeting as presented. Ayes; four, Nays; none, Absent; one. Motion carried.

3. Treasurer's Reports for November and December 2004 were distributed and placed on file.

4. Correspondence: (No action required) Chamber News-Jan 05, Recycling Report-2004, E911 Report-Dec 04, GRA Strategic Planning Session Report-Nov04

5. Citizens Who Wish To Speak: Jay L. Stephan spoke to the board regarding comments made to the media by Grayling Township Zoning Board of Appeals members regarding reconstruction of a boat house on the AuSable River which had building permits and DNR permits and was not a case under the jurisdiction of the Z.B.A. He feels these board members should be reprimanded. Mr. Stephan requested the Township Board to consider rescinding all or portions of its Zoning Ordinances as most of them no longer have anything to do with the health, safety or welfare of township residents and they are leading us into excessive litigation. Our excessive regulations are creating a dictatorship over private held lands. Motion by Krays, second by Ashton, to research questionable areas of the Zoning Ordinance to determine their validity regarding health, safety and welfare. Also determine if they were adopted correctly, are being administered correctly and are currently constitutional. Ayes; four, Nays; none, Absent; one. Motion carried.

6. Consensus of the Board to schedule a Public Hearing for March 9, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. regarding the addition of an R-3 Residential District to the Grayling Township Zoning Ordinance. This amendment has been requested by the AuSable Woods Property Owners Association and would affect only properties within that subdivision.

7. Proposal from Accumed Billing.

Inc. to assume billing and collection of Fire Dept. fees. Supervisor was asked to provide current receipts and outstanding invoices prior to any action regarding contracting out the billing process.

8. Bid opening for lawn/window/carpenter care at township hall. Bids were opened from: Kleen-Rite Services and Northern Lawn & Home Care. Motion by Long, second by Krays, to accept the bid of \$8,803.25 per year on a five year contract from Northern Lawn & Home Care. Ayes; two, Nays; two, Absent; one. Motion failed. Motion by Wright, second by Krays, to reject both bids and re-advertise as it appears the contractors were not bidding on the same services. Ayes; three, Nays; one, Absent; one. Motion carried.

9. Seminars: Wright & Kangas will be attending the MTA Annual Conference Jan 24-28, 2005. Motion by Long, second by Krays, to authorize members of the Grayling Township Board of Review to attend training session in Gaylord on February 22, 2005. Ayes; four, Nays; none, Absent; one. Motion carried.

10. Motion by Wright, second by Krays, to approve payment of bill on vouchers 2950-2953, 2967, 2993-3032, Guardian Dental \$418.89, Board & Comm. fees \$640.00 for a grand total of \$91,924.93. Ayes; four, Nays; none, Absent; one. Motion carried.

11. Motion by Long, second by Krays, to recess regular meeting and go into executive session regarding litigation with 6131 W M-72, Inc. Ayes; four, Nays; none, Absent; one. Motion carried.

12. Motion by Krays, second by Long, to re-convene regular meeting (9:15 p.m.) Ayes; four, Nays; none, Absent; one. Motion carried.

13. Motion by Krays, second by Long, to approve the agreement and release of claims between 6131 W M-72, Inc. and Grayling Township as presented by Attorney Burnmeister and authorize Supervisor Wright to sign the agreement. Ayes; four, Nays; none, Absent; one. Motion carried. The agreement will be forwarded to 6131 W M-72, Inc. and will become public once all parties have agreed to the terms and signed the document.

14. Motion to adjourn, carried. Ayes; four, Nays; none, Absent; one. (9:43 p.m.)

Monica Ashton, C.M.C.

Grayling Township Clerk

NEED RUBBER STAMPS?

Come see us at

The Crawford County

Avalanche

102 Mich. Ave. • Grayling

(989) 348-6811

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Grayling City Council will hold a public hearing concerning the Michigan Economic Development Corporation funding under the Michigan Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) Grow Michigan Public Works Project Grant. The application request for \$168,386 is proposed to be used to help fund the Maple Street Water Main Project. Funds from this grant will be used to install a new water main crossing the AuSable River near Maple Street. It is expected that this project will benefit the entire community.

The public hearing will be held on Monday January 31, 2005, at 7:30 p.m., at the Grayling City Hall, located at 1020 City Boulevard, Grayling, Michigan.

All interested persons are invited to attend this public hearing, especially persons of low and moderate income and those living within the project area.

Michele Moshier, City Clerk

CRAWFORD COUNTY GRAYLING RECREATION AUTHORITY

BOARD/ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS/BUILDING AUTHORITY POSITIONS

The Crawford County Board of Commissioners are presently accepting applications one position each:

Building Authority

Grayling Recreation Authority

Zoning Board of Appeals

Applicants are required to be county residents. The Building Authority member must have a genuine interest in all buildings and properties belonging to the county. The Authority is incorporated for the purpose of acquiring, furnishing, equipping, owning, improving, enlarging, operating and/or maintaining a county courthouse, jail and/or other buildings, parking lots and necessary structures for Crawford County.

The GRA member will help facilitate parks and recreation services in Crawford County as well as to operate and maintain Hanson Hills Recreation Area and Winter Sports Park and the Grayling Fish Hatchery.

The Zoning Board of Appeals position must be able to hear and decide appeals from, and review any order, requirement, decision or determination made by the County Board, Planning and Zoning Commission through a variance hearing.

Application can be obtained from and submitted to County Clerk Sandra Moore by Friday, January 28, 2005 at 3:30 p.m. or may be obtained online thru www.crawfordco.org and returned to Crawford County Clerk 200 W. Michigan Avenue, Grayling, MI 49738.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE FOR LOVELLS TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

A public hearing on a proposed amendment to the Lovells Township Zoning ordinance will be conducted by the Zoning Board on Thursday, February 10, 2005 at 7:00 PM at the Township Hall located at 8405 Twin Bridge Road. The content of the proposed amendment concerns the addition of certain Green Belt District regulations to Commercial & Business District properties on the AuSable River. The full text may be viewed by contacting the Township Supervisor (989-348-9215) during regular business hours Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. All interested persons are invited to attend the hearing and comment on the proposed amendment. Written comments may be addressed to: Lovells Township Zoning Board, 8405 Twin Bridge Road, Grayling, MI 49738 and should be received prior to the hearing.

Fred Schaibly, Lovells Township Supervisor
Dan Alstott, Lovells Township Zoning Board Chair

SOUTH BRANCH TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING & ANNUAL MEETING FOR GENERAL AND SPECIAL FUNDS

The South Branch Township Board will hold a public hearing on the proposed Township Budget for fiscal year 2005-2006 at South Branch Township Hall, 5245 N. M-18, Roscommon, MI 48653 @, on March 8, 2005, at 7:00 p.m.: Annual Meeting March 8, 2005, Following general meeting.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of the hearing.

A copy of the budget is available for public inspection at the South Branch Township Hall.

This notice is posted in compliance With PA 267 of 1976 as amended, MCL 41.72a(2)(3) and the Americans with Disabilities Act. The South Branch Township Board will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting upon 10 days notice to the Township Board. Individuals with disabilities should contact the Board by writing or calling South Branch Township Hall, P.O. Box 606, Roscommon, MI 48653. (989) 275-8232.

Notice complies with MCL 141.436 & MCL 211.240

FEATURES

A LOOK AT OUR PAST FROM THE PAGES OF THE AVALANCHE

23 Years Ago
January 28, 1982

Score one for South Branch Township in their battle with illegal dumping. The DNR recently inspected both of the township waste transfer sites and found no violations. Earlier this year, persons were illegally dumping large furniture, appliances and other bulky items at the dump sites. The DNR closed off the area and the township hired someone to police the site 4-6 hours a day.

Parts of the AuSable main-stream frozen over during recent twenty below temperatures have opened a normal free-flowing current reported below Wakeley Bridge. On the north branch the river in front of Don Welch's residence has been frozen since January 9.

Fifty years of banking service to the Grayling area was celebrated last Tuesday night, January 19th when the Grayling State Bank held their annual stockholders dinner at the Shoppenagons Motor Hotel. During the evening, Jack Alef, President of the bank, announced the promotion of Marie Cason to Assistant Vice-President from her position as Assistant cashier. Cason has been with the bank for 23 years.

46 Years Ago

January 29, 1959

Fishing through the ice at Crapo Lake has been good lately, Vern Hartman has had his share of good luck.

Jack Alef, newly elected

President of Grayling State Bank, was the speaker at Monday night's meeting of the Kiwanis Club of Grayling held at Shoppenagons Inn.

The storm which struck Michigan last Wednesday dumping snow, sleet and freezing rain throughout the state brought quick action in Crawford County and Grayling. Drivers coming through from Detroit report that Crawford County had the first plowed roads that they had found on the way. In the City of Grayling, streets were plowed and snow moved out of the right of way during the night so traffic was moving at an almost normal clip by Thursday morning. Congratulations are in order to County Road Superintendent Bruce Carlson and his crew and to City Manager Russell Carlson and the city crew.

At the January Chamber of Commerce meeting guest Russell Carlson re-assured chamber chairman Frank Bond that good clean snow would be deposited in the vicinity of the water tank and ready for use on January 23 for the 2nd annual School Snow Sculpture Activity. This activity is being financially sponsored by the City of Grayling, Grayling Business and Professional Association, Kiwanis club, Spike's and the Chamber of Commerce.

City manager Russell Carlson reported the history of the electric system in city. The electric

industry had its start in Grayling when several local citizens needed and could use electric service. They formed a company known as the Grayling Electric Company. This company was incorporated in 1903 or 1904 and had its beginning in the building of an earth-packed dam on the AuSable River, west of the community about two miles.

69 Years Ago

January 30, 1936

Fire at about 5 o'clock this morning was rapidly eating its way into the Mrs. N. P. Olson building and stock and fixtures of the C. W. Olson drug store. Apparently the fire started in the storage room at the rear end of the building. Flames soon gutted the back rooms where most of the pharmaceuticals are kept and then raced upstairs were Mr. Olson made his home. The latter was awake at about 4 a.m. and at that time noticed nothing wrong. In less than an hour later he again awoke and found his room filled with smoke. He raced to the exit but the stairs were so hot and smoke so dense that he returned to the front end of the building where he called from a window for help. Firemen had to assist him down a ladder. It happened so quickly that Mr. Olson had no opportunity to save any of his belongings except a pair of trousers and sweater that he put on over his pajamas. He was even barefoot when he reached the sidewalk. Accepting the loan of a pair of artics he went to the Hanson restaurant where he waited until he could secure apparel

from the Mercantile Co. store. The small building adjoining and occupied by Esbern Olson as a shoe store was washed out and stock had to be removed for safety.

92 Years Ago

January 30, 1913

A bill has been offered in this legislature calling for a fish hatchery to be located in this county.

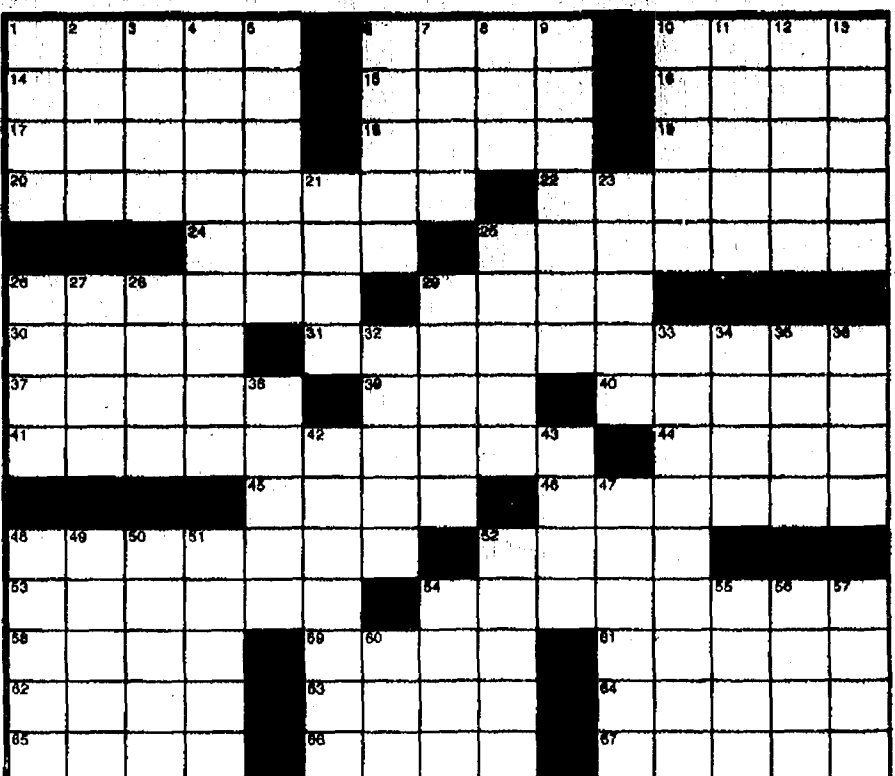
Tomorrow night is the "J" Hop at the opera house. The Juniors are planning a pretty party and no doubt they and their invited friends will make the event a merry one.

Game Warden Babbitt was called to Lansing Tuesday by State Game Warden Wm. R. Oates for the purpose of talking over conditions in this part of Michigan. There are a number of contemplated changes in the game laws that will be considered. Among the proposed new laws is one for a non-resident license for trout fishing.

Miss Marguerite Bourrows of Port Austin arrived Saturday afternoon and is the assistant in the high school, having commenced Monday. Miss Lillian Bates also started teaching the second grade, this week being the beginning of the second quarter.

James Thompson, who for the past two years has been station agent at the M. & N. E. railroad in this city, has resigned his position and accepted appointment from deputy game warden of State Game Warden Oates.

CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1. British for "tally."
6. Mongrel dog.
10. Acronym for Digital Patch and Access System.
14. Asuka, singer of "Wanna Be Your Girlfriend."
15. To a position on.
16. Cardinal point 90 degrees clockwise from north.
17. Sole vocal pieces with instrumental accompaniment.
18. Graduation of color.
19. One of the sons of Nagnajit.
20. Commit again.
22. Colorless crystalline compound used as a photographic developer.
24. Forsaken child.
25. Tall, four-sided shaft of stone rising to a pointed pyramidal top.
26. Defeats unexpectedly.
29. Characterized by sumptuous, social pleasure.
30. Metal container used to store valuables.
31. Devices that monitor the presence of various chemicals with biological materials.
37. Veil.
39. Acronym for Neural Network Interface.
40. Carry clumsily.
41. AKA plasmodesma.
44. Peak of the Olympus Mountains in northern Greece.
45. Acronym for Bottom Line Up-Front.
46. Excessive accumulations of fluid in.
48. Collapse inward violently.
52. Materials handled in a postal system.
53. Paul, director of Jennifer Lopez's Play video.
54. Narrow elevated walkways.
58. Pertaining to "od."
59. Separate forcefully.
61. de pepe, small, round pasta.
62. Word by which an entity is designated.
63. Indefinitely long periods of time.
64. Name meaning "nephew."
65. Acronym for Secondary Means of De-energization.
66. Skin eruption.
67. Acronym for School of Slavonic and East European Studies.

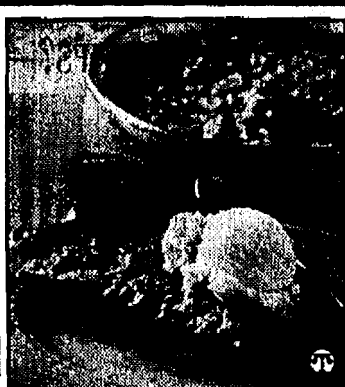
DOWN

1. Burn the surface of.
2. Engage the services of a person

3. Qur'an, manuscripts of the Qur'an.
4. Also called "crazyweeds."
5. Movie made in India starring Bobby Dool.
6. Recurrent thematic element in an artistic work.
7. Distinct entity within a larger group.
8. Acronym for Threshold Task Number.
9. Able to be hauled.
10. Malevolent person.
11. India, first village in Nanded to have a pilot water management and distribution scheme.
12. Ancient pottery form used to contain oil.
13. Main axis on a herbaceous plant.
21. Acronym for Mint In Sealed Box.
23. Course of action.
25. Fertile spot in a desert.
26. Acronym for United States Park Police.
27. Newman, star of Cool Hand Luke.
28. Acronym for Science Fiction Research Association.
29. 19th-century British word for "thief."
32. Variant of "endue."
33. Strings for fastening a shoe.
34. Acronym for Oxford Life science Modelling.
35. Acronym for Regional Education Service Agency.
36. Fashionable resorts.
38. Two raised stands in early Christian churches from which parts of the service were read.
42. Elderly person.
43. Edible part of something.
47. Created for the assessment and collection of land taxes under the Umayyads.
48. Objects of uncritical devotion.
49. Female head of household.
50. Leading part.
51. Adulterated with a substance.
52. Dame Ngaio, crime fiction author.
54. Vessels for holding foods.
55. One or more aspects of the process of living.
56. Joint in the middle part of the leg.
57. Acronym for Special Emergency Radio Service.
60. Acronym for Equal Opportunity Advisor.

ANSWERS IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

RECIPE OF THE WEEK



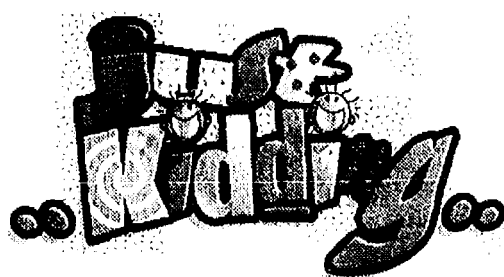
OATMEAL CHIPPER SKILLET COOKIE

- 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter, softened
- 1/2 cup firmly packed brown sugar
- 1/4 cup granulated sugar
- 1 egg
- 3/4 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 cup all-purpose flour

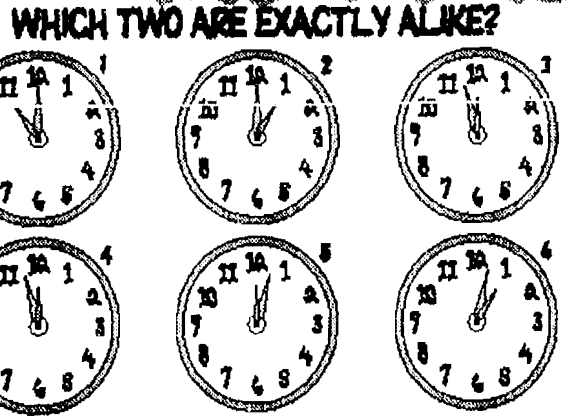
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 1/2 cups oats (quick or old-fashioned, uncooked)
- 1 cup semisweet chocolate chips
- Vanilla ice cream (optional)

Heat oven to 350°F. In large bowl, beat butter and sugars with electric mixer until creamy. Add egg and vanilla; beat well. Add combined flour, baking soda and salt; mix well. Stir in oats and chocolate chips; mix well. Press dough evenly into bottom of 10-inch nonstick oven-

proof skillet. Bake 20 minutes or until top is lightly browned. (Do not overbake as cookie will continue to bake after it is removed from oven.) Cool about 10 minutes. Cut into 16 wedges. Serve with ice cream, if desired. 16 servings.



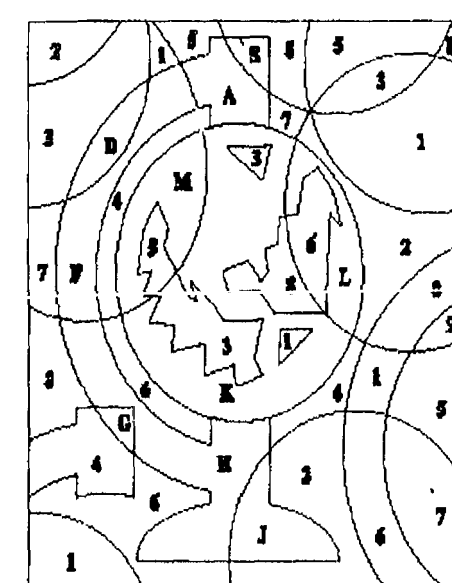
FIND THE TWINS



DID YOU KNOW??

Most lipstick contains fish scales.

HIDDEN PICTURE



Color in each space that contains a letter.

ADOPT A PET



Heather is a wonderful dog, but she cannot live in a home where there are cats. She is spayed, heartworm tested, and has all of her vaccinations.

For more information on any of our pets that are up for adoption, please visit our website at: www.ascc.petfinder.com

Animal Shelter has received a grant for low cost spaying and neutering. Anyone who can not afford to spay or neuter their pet is urged to call Dixie at 348-4117 or 348-9178.

2005 Pet and Dog Calendars (\$5) are on sale at The Copy Shop. All proceeds to the shelter.

Help build a new shelter. Buy a "Driving into the Future" raffle ticket for a chance to win a 2005 Dodge Durango! Tickets are \$100 each; only 2,000 will be sold. Send check or money order for amount of tickets requested to: Animal Shelter of Crawford County, P.O. Box 384, Grayling, MI 49738. Tickets also sold at the Avalanche, Riverland Gear, The Medicine Shoppe, Chemical Bank and the shelter.

The Animal Shelter of Crawford County is located at: 508 1/2 Huron Street (M-72 East) in Grayling Between the Road Commission and the Eagles Hall Hours: Mon. - Sat. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Sun. and Holidays 8 a.m. - 11 a.m. After hour appointments available. Call (989) 348-4117

HOROSCOPES

For the Week of January 27, 2005



Guess what, Capricorn. A friend is hiding something. Don't pry unless you know for sure that you have the time to help. A mix-up at work tests your patience.

December 22-January 19



Good news is headed your way. Magic moments like this are rare. Celebrate with a night on the town. A phone call makes the occasion sweeter.

March 21-April 19



Sometimes actions speak louder than words. Remember that as you deal with a situation at home. Make sure your family gets the message.

June 22-July 22



No doubt about it, Libra. You know how to network. Take advantage of your skills to improve your presentation and make heads turn.

September 23-October 22



Your proposal receives rave reviews. Invite some friends over and throw a dinner party. It's been a while since you've had some fun. Enjoy yourself.

January 20-February 18



A friendship is tested. Cheer up—you've been through rockier times than this. A valuable item is recovered. Put it someplace safe.

April 20-May 20



You're very crafty, Leo. Your friends know it and have volunteered your talents in the past, but this week, you're too busy and must learn to say no.

July 23-August 22



The pressure is on at the office. Don't give in to it. Take your time, work diligently and you'll come out on top. A friend makes you an offer you can't refuse.

October 23-November 21



Kindness only goes so far. Keep that in mind as you deal with a young friend. It's time to get tough. A special occasion deserves extra thought.

November 19-December 20



Poor Gemini. A relationship begins to fizzle. Don't throw in the towel unless you know for sure you can't save it. The problem could just be a breakdown in communication.

May 21-June 21



You're in demand. You've got a stack of invitations on your desk. Don't spread yourself thin. Pick a select few and make your presence known.

August 23-September 22



An unusual turn of events makes you rethink your priorities. You need to make some adjustments to meet your goals. An old photo resurfaces.

November 22-December 21

WEATHER

Courtesy of the City of Grayling

Last Week

| Date | H | L | Snow |
|------|----|-----|------|
| 1/19 | 14 | -13 | 6 |
| 1/20 | 23 | 5 | 7 |
| 1/21 | 13 | -20 | 8 |
| 1/22 | 16 | -23 | 8.25 |
| 1/23 | 10 | -17 | 8.5 |
| 1/24 | 21 | -20 | 8.5 |
| 1/25 | 25 | 20 | 9 |

Extended Forecast

(Courtesy of the Weather.com)

| Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday | Monday | Tuesday |
|--------------|--------------|----------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| High 14 | High 19 | High 24 | High 29 | High 29 | High 31 |
| Low 0 | Low 9 | Low 17 | Low 21 | Low 21 | Low 20 |
| Mostly Sunny | Mostly Sunny | Cloudy | Few Snow Showers | Few Snow Showers | Few Snow Showers |

ADVERTISING CLASSIFIED

Classifieds must be paid for in advance
Display Advertising Rate - \$6.90 per column inch
Deadline for Display Classifieds - 12 noon, Monday
Classifieds by the word rate - \$5.00 for 15 words or less, 10¢ per each additional word; includes Internet listing:
www.townnews.com/avalanche/
Classified by the word deadline - 12 noon, Tuesday

Crawford County Avalanche

1. Real Estate

**SEE OUR LISTINGS
IN THE CLASSIFIED
SECTION**

COLDWELL BANKER
CORNELL REALTY

GRAYLING
 2003 S I-75 Business Loop
 800-300-6653
 989-348-6481

NEW LISTING

Newer home on 10 acres off private drive! Bright and cheerful interior. 1,196 s.f., 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, Ber-Ber carpeting, wood laminate & ceramic tile flooring. Stone, Cedar shake, and vinyl exterior. Attached, drywalled, and insulated 2 car garage. Great hunting area! Woodstove not included. \$129,900 #236470

Ask For Duane or Kelly

COLDWELL BANKER
CORNELL REALTY

Duane LaMotte
 Kelly Millikin

800-300-6653 or 989-348-6481
 2003 S. I-75 Business Loop • Grayling, MI 49738

1. Real Estate

4552 ORBIT DRIVE, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, full finished basement, large yard, quiet dead end street, \$117,500. Home: 348-8902 Cell: 390-0696 (-13-20-27-3/1)

1. Real Estate

Connie L. Winans
 Lake & Snowmobile Enthusiasts...will love this location near Lake Margrethe w/trails on the state land that abuts this property! Very nice home w/updates to numerous to list. 3 possibly 5 bedrooms, open living room/kitchen/dining area plus family room. #5429 \$127,500

Century 21
 River Country Real Estate • 5688 West M-72 & 2375 S. Business Loop (989) 348-5474

1. Real Estate

DOUBLE CORNER LOT, Grayling, house "as is." Best offer! 348-4124. (-20-27/1)

MANY NORTHERN MICHIGAN Properties www.century21grayling.com (1/7/99t/1)

LOW INCOME? Do you want to buy a home? If you have good credit or no credit and low income, you may qualify for a government funded home loan with payments adjusted to your income. Call Connie at 989-390-2888 or 989-348-6579. *(For example: yearly income for a family of 4 \$39,100 or less.) (-LR2/10/05/1)

NEWER RANCH HOME, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage, close to town, \$119,900, must sell. Make offer 989-348-1482 (-13-20-27-3-10-17-24-3/1)

1. Real Estate

This home has great curb appeal. Exceptional four bedroom home with two and 1/2 baths and a total of 2,358 s/f of custom living space. Located on the Fox Run golf course this home features an attached garage and 20x36 detached garage for additional storage. #5363 \$299,000

River Country Real Estate
 5688 West M-72
 (989) 578-1102
 Jerry Gosnell
 Associate Broker

1. Real Estate

GRAYLING 2.5 ACRES wooded near AuSable mainstream and state land. \$13,900 by owner. 348-7355 (-1/13/05t/1)

ROSCOMMON LAND CONTRACT, 1,400 square feet, 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. \$65,000, \$10,000 down, \$482.66 payments. 517-543-3057 (-13-20-27-3-10/1)

NEW HOME, 2 1/2 acres, near river, on Burton's Landing Rd. 989-348-4840. (-20-27-3-10/1)

NEWLY BUILT 960 sq. ft. home with garage. \$85,000.00. 989-348-4840 (-20-27-3-10/1)

AUTO GLASS repair and replacement now available at JJ's Auto Glass. 348-7710 (1/6/05TF/1)

1. Real Estate

2 BEDROOM, 1 BATH, in town home, recently remodeled. Detached garage, land contract terms, \$2,500.00 down, \$395.00 per month, 8.75% int., \$46,900.00. Call Northern Michigan Land Brokers, 231-922-7170. (-20-27/1)

PERFECT DOWNTOWN LOCATION for 2 great business opportunities: a retail store and a separate business as a coffee shop. \$84,900 includes furniture and fixtures. To be sold "as is." \$84,900 Call Coldwell Banker Cornell Realty at 989-348-6481. Listing #: 236198 (-27/1)

CUTE HOME with sun porch. Great location, perfect starter home. 2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, 12' x 16' sun porch, gas log fireplace. Possible 3rd bedroom. Just minutes from downtown or expressway. Much, much more. \$78,500 Call Coldwell Banker Cornell Realty at 989-348-6481. Listing #: 228089 (-27/1)

1. Real Estate

10 ROOMS PLUS - CLASSIC HOME FOR \$1

Bonded Buyer to remove house by mid April 2005. Owner will help with moving costs. For more information call 989-348-4301

RE/MAX OF Grayling

CHARLENE SCHEER Broker / Owner
 Limited Real Estate Appraiser
 CS-001-001-001

CRAIG HINKLE Broker/Owner
 State Licensed Appraiser

EACH OFFICE INDEPENDENTLY OWNED & OPERATED

RE/MAX Above the Crowd!

185' ON THE EAST BRANCH OF THE AUSABLE RIVER. Handyman special sits 50' from the river edge with picturesque setting offering 2.5 acres. Cathedral ceiling in family room with 2 skylights. Brick fireplace. Detached garage with extra slab for addition and vinyl shed. Cement patio with stone design into entrance of cottage. CS-1872 \$120,000

YOUNG COUPLES; RETIRED COUPLES! Here's the home to fit your needs and wallet. New carpet, new paint, some new windows. Built over roof in 1986, 3 Bedrooms, 1 bath mobile offers 833 Square feet. Open living room, kitchen and dining area. Cement driveway. Attached garage, large back yard has nice trees for shade and relaxation. Close to town CS-1914 \$34,900

SNOWMOBILING & HUNTING! Home with 1100 square feet. New Berber carpet downstairs. New vinyl siding, windows, and floors in kitchen and bath also new roof on house. Kitchen offers oak cabinets, lazy susan and walk in pantry and stainless steel sink. Comes with all appliances. 160 acres of state land across the road. Close to snowmobile trails. CS-2034 \$59,900

CLEARED BUILDING SITE ADJOINING STATE LAND. Approx. property size 221x293 (1.48 acres), pines with mixture. Close to all recreational areas. Located in a nice development with club house for members only CS-1904 \$9,500

WOODY AMBIENCE AND A BREEZY LOCATION! Make nature your neighbor in the ranch style 1400 square foot home. 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, open floor plan with vaulted ceilings and built in entertainment center in the living area. Comes complete with all new appliances. Kitchen offers lots of counter space and cabinets. Master bath offers a garden tub and skylight. Low maintenance home in quiet neighborhood at an affordable price. Extra lot adjoining available for \$3,500 CS-2055 \$73,500

QUALITY HOME ON 10 ACRES adjoins to state land, access to Cub Lake, beautiful rolling acreage, backstop drive. This 1,520 s.f. 2BR home features full walkout basement, sauna, brick fireplace, updated kitchen with all appl., 23' Master BR, & French doors from dining room onto 8x24 covered porch. Also includes 2-car fin. garage plus a 24x36 det. Garage. Natural gas available. CH-2049 \$189,900

1,500'± FRONTAGE ON THE AUSABLE RIVER This exceptional 19-acre home has 1,500'± fr. on the banks of the famous AuSable River mainstream where the swift gravel bottom is ideal for trout fishing. The park-like resort property backs up to State Land, is very private, & includes a perma-log bunkhouse w/fireplace. This 1 1/2-log home features 1,726/428 sq. ft., 3BR, 1 1/2 BA, cathedral ceiling, large center fireplace w/sloped wood stove, a bay window, tile floors in kitchen & baths. 8x22 3-season porch, appliances, & includes some furnishings. CH-2050 \$448,000

Century 21 RIVER COUNTRY
 Winning Office of 8 Quality Service Awards

NEW LISTING
 Extremely Motivated Sellers own this 3 bedroom home in Lewiston. Siding, Roof, and well have been updated, home only needs minor trim work. Located in a well kept neighborhood and an absolute steal for only \$534 \$68,900

REDUCED
 Owner is leaving state and must sell! Priced reduced \$5,000. Their loss is your gain! No reasonable offer refused! This 4 bedroom, 2 bath home has an all drywall interior. Property adjoins thousand of acres of state land! The AuSable river is within walking distance. #5343 \$92,000

NEW LISTING
 Nice cabin, in remote but accessible location, near Knell Lake. Property adjoins a abundance of State land to the west for hunting and recreation. owner of this property you could snowmobile out your front yard onto the trails. #5435 \$47,500

NEW LISTING
 1.7 acres minutes from Frederic is the site from this 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 16x80 Mobile home. You'll delight in the open, bright floor plan, master suite with walk in closet, and high ceilings. #5433 \$79,900

NEW LISTING
 Charming log home with 5 acres and 124' on Kelka Creek. Home features cathedral ceilings, loft area as possible 3rd bedroom, walkout basement and stunning wilderness view. Close to many recreational amenities...truly a must see! #5427 \$140,000

NEW LISTING
 You can see for miles from this 10 acre parcel located 3 miles north of Frederic. Truly a picture post card view. Newer 2 bedroom ranch home new 30x40 pole barn cement floor 12' side walls and an additional shed. Close to snowmobile trails easy access from I-75 #5428 \$118,000

10 Acres! Perfect for all outdoor sports. Great home with CENTRAL AIR, 3 bedrooms, an open floor plan, large laundry, over-sized bathroom, bonus room and more...Price includes a 1 year home warranty. #5303 \$110,000

Lovely 4 bedroom 2 bath home situated on 6.98 acres in northern Michigan prime snowmobile country. Home has large rooms, large 24x40 attached garage with upper bonus room, and an additional 30x40 unattached garage. #5376 \$165,000

4,720 SF Building 200' on West M-72 1.78 Acres - AuSable River
 Formerly Cartwright & Danewell

www.century21grayling.com
989-348-5474
877-763-1478
 5688 West M-72
 Grayling, Michigan 49738

Excellent home for the first time buyer. The home has large rooms and lots of closet space. Located on an extra large corner lot and only 2 blocks from snowmobile trail! Home is a great deal at only \$59,900 #5401

Randy Thompson Broker / Owner
Connie Winans Associate Broker
Cassy Thompson Sales Agent
Randall Herley Sales Agent
Bill Borchers Sales Associate
Maggie O'Rourke Sales Agent
Kristie Taylor Sales Agent
Jerry Gosnell Associate Broker
Bob Pollock Associate Broker
Scott Hanson Sales Agent
Vicki Harrington Sales Agent
Sherry Herbel Sales Agent

Century 21 Mortgage 1-888-324-6568

RE/MAX of Grayling
<http://www.remax-grayling-mi.com>
 Office Hours: Mon. - Fri. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sat. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday by appointment only
(989) 348-7440
 REALTOR®

GREAT CAMP on 10 acres. Perfect home or cabin on 10 acres adjoining state land. 700 s.f. home with 2 bedrooms, 1 bath and all appliances included. 24' x 32' guest quarters that includes kitchen, bath, living room, bedroom and 14' x 10' deck. 12' x 24' storage shed with attached 12' x 12' dog kennel and 16' x 30' dog run. This property would make an excellent hunting or snowmobiling camp! \$79,900 Call Coldwell Banker Cornell Realty at 989-348-6481. Listing #: 235215 (-27/1)

AFFORDABLE HOME close to town. Very affordable 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath home on a nice corner lot with an attached garage, located only 2.5 miles from downtown Grayling. Want to work in Gaylord? The I-75 expressway is only minutes away. \$78,500 Call Coldwell Banker Cornell Realty at 989-348-6481. Listing #: 230337 (-27/1)

ALL-SEASON GETAWAY on the Ausable. 400 +/- feet of frontage on the East Branch of the Ausable River. 1,206 sq. ft., 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, hardwood flooring, fireplace and large 8' x 30' deck overlooking the river. Perfect all-season getaway. Adjacent to state land. \$129,500 Call Coldwell Banker Cornell Realty at 989-348-6481. Listing #: 236528 (-27/1)

NICE HOME on 10 acres. Built in 2001, 3 bedroom home with 1.5 baths, 5" well, attached garage that's dry walled and insulated. Located at the end of a private road on 10 wooded acres. Good hunting area. Wood stove not included. \$129,900 Call Coldwell Banker Cornell Realty at 989-348-6481. Listing #: 236470 (-27/1)

2. For Rent

DuBois Rental Center.
Tents, Tables & Chairs
Lawn & Concrete Tools Available
(989) 348-9000
5615 W. M-72,
Grayling, MI 49738

Building Rental

Retail or office space downtown approximately 1,800 sq. ft. Available January 2005. For more information call Linda at
989-348-6811

FOR RENT Grayling Housing Commission

Is taking applications for a (1) bedroom apartment. Base Rent is based on 30% of Adjusted Income
Maximum Ceiling Rents
1 Bedroom.....\$400
Rent Includes Utilities
**308 Lawndale Drive
989-348-9314**



1. Real Estate

400 ACRE HUNTING LODGE offers 3 bedrooms, 2 baths with stream flowing through parcel. Many acres of this land are covered with red pine and have a high timber value. Raised deer blinds located throughout the 400 acres. This is a one-of-a-kind hunting club. Has a 24' x 48' garage for all the toys. \$950,000 Call Coldwell Banker Cornell Realty at 988-348-6481. Listing #: 236529 (-27/1)

NEWLY REMODELED HOME. Lovely 3 bedroom home that has been totally remodeled. Home features large master suite with vaulted ceilings, tongue and groove, hardwood floors, Maple cabinets, huge perennial gardens and 28' x 38' garage. What a great value! \$124,900 Call Coldwell Banker Cornell Realty at 988-348-6481. Listing #: 235736 (-27/1)

WEEKLY SPECIAL fully furnished, microwave and refrigerator, \$99.00 per week. Grayling Northwoods Resort. 989-344-9000. (-16-23-30-6-13-20-27)

OFFICE SPACE, individual or multiple. Includes DSL, heat, electric, water, lunch room, conference room and use of existing phone system. Ample parking and high traffic location; immediate occupancy and flexible lease term. \$395.00/month. 989-348-5474, ask for Randy Thompson. (-27-3-10-17-24-32)

1 BEDROOM IN TOWN on Ausable. \$385 per month. Call 231-599-2895. (-12/7/05tf/2)

FOR RENT efficiency apartments. Includes all utilities, cable, and trash. No pets. 989-348-6649. (-6-13-20-27/2)

2 BEDROOM MOBILE home for rent on Ausable River main-stream. 4 1/2 miles north of Luzerne. Borders snowmobile, horseback trail, and state land. 989-826-3126. \$450/month. (-13-20-27/2)

LARGE 1 BEDROOM upstairs apartment. \$285 per month plus deposit. No pets, references required, available next month. 348-6552. (-27-3/2)

3. Employment

Grayling City & Twp Fire Dept is taking applications for Firefighters or anyone interested in becoming a firefighter. Applications can be picked up at the fire station 1041 City Blvd between 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Applications & resumes will be accepted until 4 p.m. 2-4-05 at the fire station. Equal Opportunity Employer.

1. Real Estate

3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, attached garage, fireplace, Manistee River access, lease, deposit, references, \$800 per month. Call Joe 348-2288. (-13-20-27/2)

BEDROOM FOR RENT. Enjoy peace and quiet in this AuSable River home surrounded by woods and wildlife. One mile from Grayling. \$325 a month. All utilities are free. Including phone, electricity, cable TV, and more. 348-2083 (-20-27/2)

LAKE HOME FOR RENT Beautifully remodeled 3 bedroom home with view and access to Lake Margrethe. Large 2 car garage, plenty of room to store your toys, large lot and friendly neighbors. Kitchen appliances included. Close to snowmobile trails and Hanson Hills. \$800 per month plus security. No pets. Call 586-228-2874. (-20-27-3-10-17-24/2)

WEEKLY AND MONTHLY house and cottage rentals near Roscommon, Grayling, on Higgins Lake and on Houghton Lake. Higgins North Vacation Rentals. (989) 821-3434 (12/25/03tf/2)

RIVERVIEW SENIOR APARTMENTS. 306 Knight Street in Grayling, one bedroom units available. Persons must be 62 years or older and/or handicapped or disabled of any age. Rent based on income. No minimum rent. Mention this ad and receive your first month rent free. Applications at office on site or call Linda at 1-800-225-7982. Managed by Stratford Group Ltd., 442 W. Baldwin Street, Alpena, MI 49707. Equal housing opportunity. Hearing TDD # 1-800-855-1155. (-27-3-10-17/2)

3. Employment

Introducing
The UPS Store.

Enormous strength and limitless potential make this an unprecedented franchising opportunity. To learn more, visit www.theupsstore.com or call 1-877-623-7253.



The UPS Store

**CHRISTMAS BILLS COMING IN?
EARN MONEY TO PAY THEM OFF
AND
EVEN PAY FOR NEXT CHRISTMAS!**
Ask about our incentive pay plan

Homecare RN's - CASUAL POSITION'S OPEN!
Qualifications: Homecare experience preferred with well-developed assessment skills. We utilize an automated documentation system, experience with this a plus. Candidate must be a graduate from an accredited school and have a current Michigan RN license. Requires a minimum of 1 year of professional nursing experience. Ability to assess and act upon client needs without direct supervision. If you want to work with people who believe in a mission and put quality first, fax your resume to:

Brenda Lake, Business Manager
Fax 989-348-0047

for immediate consideration, or call
800-424-1457 or 800-822-8318

Mercy Amicare Homecare & Hospice is committed to the Mission and Values as set forth by Trinity Health. Mercy Amicare is committed to achieving workforce diversity and is an equal opportunity employer.

RECEPTIONIST/OFFICE CLERK

Reith-Riley Construction Co., Inc. a leading heavy/highway contractor, has an immediate opening for a Receptionist/Clerk in our Houghton Lake, Michigan Area Office. A high school diploma or equivalent is required. Primary responsibilities include answering and directing incoming telephone calls, scanning, data input into the computer, filing and other general clerical duties. Acting as backup to other office staff is another aspect of this position. 1-2 years experience in the construction industry is a plus. Applicant must have good computer skills, communication skills and detail oriented. Excellent telephone etiquette required.

We offer competitive wages and an excellent fringe benefit package. Reith-Riley is a 100% employee owned company (ESOP) and this is an ESOP position. Send your resume, in confidence, to:

REITH-RILEY CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.
ATTN: HUMAN RESOURCE DEPT.
P.O. Box 477
Goshen, IN 46527-0477
(574) 875-0793 (fax)
jobs@reith-riley.com
No phone calls please
EOE

2 BEDROOM DUPLEX, 1 bath, near town, appliances included, attached garage, \$600 per month, includes heat, \$500 deposit, no smoking, no pets. 348-6938. (-1/13/05tf/2)

TWO BEDROOM MOBILE for rent. \$400 and up. 989-348-5278. References, some pet restrictions. Seniors welcome. (-12/02/04tf/2)

HOUSE & CABINS at Lost Acres. Large 3-4 bedroom log home w/new flooring and paint. Garage not included. \$595 plus \$600 security and all utilities. One bedroom cabins for rent \$375, including all utilities plus \$200 security. 30 wooded acres. 11010 N. Old U.S. 27, 3 miles south of Waters. Walk to Blue Gill Lake. Call Leo toll free at 877-277-6976 or at 586-216-0682. Sorry, no pets allowed. (-11/4/04tf/2)

VETERINARY HOSPITAL, VETERINARY ASSISTANT, 3 Doctor AAHA hospital looking for committed, positive, full time employees to join our team. Group interview 2/7/05 at 7:00 p.m. Bring resume & references to Grayling Hospital for Animals, 5806 W. M-72, Grayling. (-27-3/3)

REGISTERED NURSES- Current position's open for Afternoon and Midnight shifts. Join our group of dedicated care givers. Great pay, flex benefits and great working environment. Make an appointment today to discuss how we can provide you with a great new job. Apply at Grayling Nursing and Rehabilitation Community, 331 Meadows Dr., Grayling. Behind the new Pizza Hut. (-20-27/3)

EXCELLENT INCOME, National Capital Funding Group now hiring courthouse researchers, will train to work from home on your computer, no experience necessary. Call 1-800-440-7234. (-20-27/3)

HILLTOP MANOR HEALTH CARE Center has openings for full time and part time CENA's for all shifts. We offer a benefit package for both full and part time. If you would like to join a winning team, please inquire within at 1290 East Michigan Highway, Roscommon, MI 48653. EEOC. (-27-3/3)

3. Employment

STAFF DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR- Must be a RN, with nursing home experience or teaching experience. Will prepare schedules for staff, educate new Nursing Assistants, lead and coordinate all inservices. Will also be working on the floor as a Charge Nurse two days per pay cycle. Contact Grayling Nursing and Rehab Community, 331 Meadows Dr., Grayling, MI. 348-2801 (-27-3/3)

INSTRUCTOR, COSMETOLOGY: Kirtland Community College in Roscommon, Michigan is seeking applicants for a full time cosmetology instructor position. For a complete position description, salary, and application information, visit our web site at www.kirtland.edu/hr/jobs or call 989-275-5000, Ext. 239 to have a posting mailed to you. Application deadline is February 18, 2005. Equal opportunity/affirmative employer. (-27/3)

ENGLISH INSTRUCTOR: Kirtland Community College is accepting applications for a part time instructor to teach English Composition I in Tawas during the summer 2005 semester. Master's degree in English required; experience teaching English composition preferred. Send cover letter, resume, and copies of transcripts to Human Resources Department, Kirtland Community College, 10775 N. St. Helen Road, Roscommon, MI 48653. Kirtland is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. (-27/3)

WRITING LAB INSTRUCTOR: Kirtland Community College is accepting applications for a part time instructor to teach Writing Lab in Tawas during the summer 2005 semester. Master's degree in English and writing lab training (can be provided before the summer semester) required; previous writing lab experience preferred. Send cover letter, resume, and copies of transcripts to Human Resources Department, Kirtland Community College, 10775 N. St. Helen Road, Roscommon, MI 48653. Kirtland is an equal/affirmative action employer. (-27/3)

SERVICE MASTER CLEAN now hiring in Grayling area. Full and part-time positions available. Janitorial and industrial cleaning. Send resume to P.O. Box 893, Alpena, MI 49707. 800-894-8113 (-13-20-27/3)

4. Services Offered

CUSTOM UPHOLSTERY
Over 20 years experience
Choose fabric in your home
FREE estimates • Pick-up & delivery
Shirley Bolton (231) 258-2610

3. Employment

4. Services Offered

**COMPLETE SEPTIC TANK
INSTALLATION & CLEANING**
Jack Millikin, Inc.
348-8411
www.jackmillikininc.com

3. Employment

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The DNR/Parks and Recreation Division is soliciting bids from vendors for firewood sales to campers at Hartwick Pines State Park from April-October 2005. For details and specifications interested bidders should contact: Park Manager, Hartwick Pines State Park 4216 Ranger Road, Grayling, MI 49738 Phone - 989-348-7068 Bid Return Date: Feb 28, 2005 at 12pm

DIRECTOR

The Crawford County Economic Development Partnership (CCEDP) is seeking a Director that will promote economic growth and job retention within Crawford County. A Bachelor's Degree in public or business administration, organization development, economic development or related area is required; a Master's Degree is preferred. Furthermore, the applicant should possess two or more years of professional experience in the field of economic development, community planning, public administration, business retention, new business development or related field. The individual must be energetic, enthusiastic and enjoy challenges while possessing strong oral and written communication skills. We offer a competitive salary and benefit package based on qualifications and experience. Interested candidates must send a resume that will include a minimum of five professional references to:

Economic Development Director
Selection Committee
P.O. Box 141
Grayling, MI 49738
Fax (989) 348-5743
ecogrowth@12k.com

Application Deadline is 4:00 pm on Friday, February 11, 2005
The CCEDP is an equal opportunity employer

MORTGAGES



America's Residential Mortgage Source
Real Estate Lending at Its Best!
Your full service mortgage lender

FHA, VA, Conventional, Zero Down
No Income/No Asset,
Home Equity, Refinancing

QUALITY • EXPERIENCE • INTEGRITY



Jeanne Lee
231-933-4700
1-800-794-3440

1111 E. Eighth St.
Traverse City, MI
49686

THE R.A. MACMULLAN CONFERENCE Center is looking for a quality individual to fill a part-time position in our house-keeping department. Duties include guest room and bathroom cleaning, light maintenance and meeting room set up. Pay range is \$7.65-\$8.74/hour. Call the R.A. MacMullan Conference Center at 989-821-6200 for an application. (-27-3/3)

100 WORKERS NEEDED Assemble crafts, wood items. Materials provided. To \$480+ week. Free information package 24 hour. 801-428-4641. (-6-13-20-27/3)

AS WEE GROW Child Care Center has immediate openings for all ages. Come join the fun. 989-344-8687. (LR1/27/05/4)

SNOW PLOWING and roof shoveling. Residential and commercial. Call anytime. Home: 348-6184 Cell: 390-0767. (LR1/27/05/4)

WILL REMOVE junk vehicles, or other equipment. Call 344-0197. (-20-27-3/4)

SNOWPLOWING BEST PRICES around guaranteed. Call anytime. Will plow and clean up right. 989-348-0153 or 710-0049 cell. (-13-20-27-3-10/4)

SHE'S BACK! Dena's Delightful Day Care. Lovable, fun, learning experience. Infants welcome! 344-1643. (-27-3/4)

PET GROOMING SERVICE, your home or mine. Please call 989-344-0584. (-20-27/4)

LICENSED CHILD CARE provider has immediate full-time openings. Call Heather 348-9058. (-27-3/4)

DRIVER'S TRAINING and road testing is offered by the Grayling Driver's Training School. Register now for the January 31 or April 18 class. Contact Howard Lehti 348-8838. Lowest rates in Northern Michigan. (-25-2-9-16-30-6-13-20-27/4)

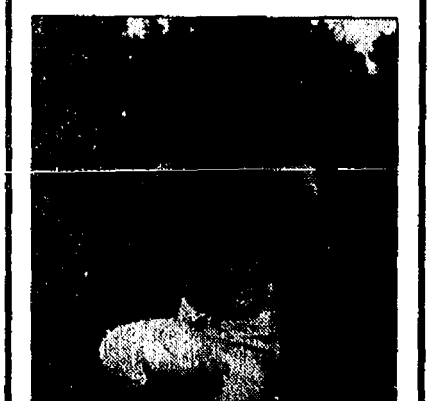
AUTO GLASS repair and replacement now available at JJ's Auto Glass. 348-7710 (1/6/05TF/4)

CAR DETAILING: Let JJ's Motor Mall make your vehicle sparkle, inside & out! 348-7710 (1/6/05TF/4)

DOES YOUR COMPUTER have a virus or just need a check up because it is acting unusual. DOCS makes house visits or you can stop by. Call Done Once Computer Service at 348-4372. (-27-3/4)

9. Personals

HAPPY 10TH BIRTHDAY



Alyssa Raye Morley

7. Miscellaneous

Crossword Answers

| | | |
|--------|--------|-------|
| BEAT | TIE | ANKH |
| ITCH | FIRST | LAIC |
| WAUR | AKENE | ATIC |
| ASSASS | INATE | INA |
| SHH | HALO | |
| COHEIR | ASCEND | |
| ERR | DOUBT | HAWED |
| LOCO | NEWLO | PIKE |
| NOHOW | RAAID | BEN |
| KETOLS | SNAKED | |
| SUMO | EHO | |
| TUT | BOTTOM | LANDS |
| ANRA | MOCHA | LEAN |
| SCAB | SADIS | ADZE |
| KISS | DAA | SCED |

LORA'S LICENSED DAY CARE has immediate openings for full and part time children 0-11 years of age. Located close to the elementary school. Meals are provided and FIA payments accepted. Plenty of fun and lots of tender loving care. 390-4994. (-27-3/4)

DAYCARE offered. Kiddie Town on North Down now taking applications for all shifts. 989-344-2470. (LR1/27/05/4)

SEWING, ZIPPERS, MENDING, quilter (classes offered). Ask for Lorrie (989)348-9349. (-6-13-20-27-3/4)

TUTOR/PRIVATE INSTRUCTOR in Spanish, German, English, and general tutoring. \$25 per hour. 989-915-2444 (-27/4)

LICENSED DAYCARE day time openings. Fun, healthy care, 0-6 years. 348-5560. (-13-20-27/4)

RTH HOME IMPROVEMENT all your interior and exterior needs. Garages, additions, drywall, painting, roofing, siding, decks, and more. Licensed and insured, free estimates. Rob Harrington 989-344-1383. (-9/16/04TF/4)

I CHARGE by the job, not by the hour. Shoveling snow off roofs, off houses, garages, trailers, sheds, etc. Shoveling snow off decks, sidewalks. 348-5081 (-13-20-27/4)

DO YOU NEED your house cleaned? Laundry and errands done. Call me, Mrs. B. 348-7604 (-27/4)

TOM'S POLE BUILDINGS has immediate openings for construction of Pole Buildings. You still have time to build before the snow flies. Featuring Ultra 2000 for siding and roofing. If you want the best call Tom's 1-800-541-3974 (-11/4/04TF/4)

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT, Amigo electric scooter, small wheelchair, aluminum crutches, shower chair, walker, commode IV pole. 344-0808. (-27/5)

FOR SALE 1974 SNOJET 440, 892 miles, \$300.00. 348-8658. (-27/5)

SNOWMOBILE FOR SALE 1980 John Deere, 340-Spit Fire. Runs & looks good. Call 989-344-0406. Ask for Doug. (-27/5)

8. Announcements

FREE CLASSES in Financial Management, Budgeting and Credit Repair starting in March. Sign up now to reserve your space. Classes held in both Gaylord and Grayling. Call Alice TOLL FREE at 866-637-1834 or Lemae at 989-348-8446

SOUTH BRANCH TOWNSHIP GRAVE SITE EXCAVATING

1. South Branch Township will be accepting bids for the excavating of grave sites at their township Cemeteries, during the "2005" schedule.
 2. Proof of Liability Insurance with Worker's Compensation Insurance, must accompany all bids.
 3. Please mark envelopes "Cemetery Excavating".
 4. Bids due by 12:00 P.M. (noon), February 8th, 2005. Opening at Board Meeting, February 8th, 2005, at 7:00 P.M.
 5. For information call Township Office, Mon.-Fri., 9:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M., at 275-8232.
- The Township Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to award the bid to other than low bidders, and in general to make the award in a manner to be in the best interest of South Branch Township.

JOHN DEERE SNOWBLOWER, 8 h.p., 8-speed, 28" cut. 348-2172 (-27/5)

LETS TALK AUCTION CO. Auction to be held on January 29th at 10:00 a.m. Perry Creek & M-33, Mio. Antiques; collectibles; furniture; household; garage related; guns; coins & more. Living estate of Kate Gerber and others. View online at www.LetsTalkAuction.com. (-27/5)

CJ 7, 1983 CJ 7 JEEP with Myers plow, body rough, runs good, metal roof, new tires. Also, second Jeep for parts, runs good, \$2,500.00. Both as is. 1979 Kowasaki snowmobile, \$150.00. 1974 Ski Doo snowmobile, \$200.00. 1973 Johnson snowmobile, \$300.00, or all three for \$550.00. Blaze King wood stove, front load. Three Anderson, thermo, double hung, aluminum clad windows. Approximately 4'X6', \$300.00. ST 830 Ford 30 inch snowblower, electric start, \$225.00. Two wheel, heavy duty trailer frame, \$150.00. 989-275-6045. (-27-3/5)

FOR SALE 89 Ford Ranger, \$475. Snowblower elec. start, \$525. Gas stove, \$75. Wall furnace, \$200. Space heater oil, \$200. 989-344-2270. (-10/21/04TF/5)

FOR SALE: 2000 Polaris Indy Triumph 600, 3-cylinder, 1600 miles, reverse, studded, \$3000; 2000 Polaris Indy 340 Touring 2-up, 1400 miles, reverse, studded, \$1700; or both for \$4500. Call 348-8837 after 6 p.m. (-20-27/5)

RUSTIC LOG FURNITURE local maker has quality pieces available. Built to order. Lower overhead means lower prices to you. Portable sawmilling service also available. Call 348-6677. If no answer, please leave message. (-12/9/04TF/5)

QUEEN SIZE PILLOW TOP mattress and box springs new in plastic with Amish made pine log headboard. Cost \$995 will sacrifice for \$285. Call (989) 429-0062. (7/3/03TF/5)

QUEEN SIZE MATTRESS set with Amish made pine log headboard and free frame still in plastic, never used. Cost \$800, will sacrifice for \$235. Call (989) 429-0062. (7/3/03TF/5)

FOR SALE: TANNING BED, 26 lamp, 230 volt, new: \$4000, now: \$2000. 348-8659 (-27/5)

8. Announcements

AMISH BUILT pine log bed. Queen size, beautiful must see. Will sell for \$265. Queen size mattress set, new in plastic with free frame will sacrifice \$150. Call (989) 429-0062. (7/3/03TF/5)

FOR SALE: 2001 PONTIAC Aztec GT. Leather, power heated seats, CD & cassette, power roof, wheels, air, cruise, tilt, heads up display, still in warranty. \$12,900 989-348-8659, leave message. (-1/27/05TF/5)

COMPUTER FOR SALE. 2 years old, excellent condition, \$380.00. Call after 5:00 p.m. 348-8424 (-27/5)

FURNITURE FOR SALE. Call 348-7012. (-20-27/5)

5. Wanted

FIFTH WHEEL HITCH 989-390-1680. (-13-20-27/6)

BUYING STANDING TIMBER, top prices for hard maple, red oak, and cherry. Free estimates. 989-873-6665 (-20-27-3-10-17-24-3-10-17-24/6)

WANTED-SCRAP VEHICLES, top dollar paid. Pick up available. 888-471-3818. (-27-3-10-17/6)

7. Miscellaneous

4 X 8 LIGHTED SIGNS for sale or lease, tables and chairs for lease, trash barrels for sale. Fick & Sons, Grayling. (989) 348-7647 or 1-800-292-9295 (4/24/03TF/7)

8. Announcements

FARM FRESH free range eggs, biggest sandwich in town, Detroit style koney's. Bloomin' Grape Deli and Wine, next to China West. 344-2221 (1/20/05TF/8)

ALL YOU CAN EAT luncheon; Thursday, Feb. 3, 11-1pm. Michelson Memorial United Methodist Church. Cost is \$.55. Take outs available. (-27-3/8)

CLUB KENO & PULL TABS at the Gray Rock Cafe! The Gray Rock Cafe has given away over \$145,000 to its patrons. Plus one loyal patron was a \$4,000 winner! Join the fun at 2123 Industrial Drive, Grayling. (-05/06/04TF/8)

CAR DETAILING: Let JJ's Motor Mall make your vehicle sparkle, inside & out! 348-7710 (1/6/05TF/8)

THE BANJO PICKER will be playing at the Sawmill Feb. 1st, 7-11p.m. (-20-27/8)

ATTENTION SNOWMOBILERS AND SKIERS! On Saturday the 29th, Skyline Ski & Country Club will host the 3rd annual ride-in for Special Olympics. Enter the drawing to win golf packages, ski packages, dinners, and other prizes. Make a \$5.00 donation to Special Olympics and get a burger and fries for only \$1.99. Ride in or stop by and meet snowmobilers from all the area clubs and representatives from the Wertz Warriors. The activities run from 11:00-5:00 at Skyline. 989-275-5445 (-27/8)

2. Birthdays

CONGRATULATIONS: My sister Joy Wright has retired after nearly twenty years of service at the Crawford AuSable Day Care and Preschool. She also helped start Riverhouse and worked there four years. And she worked for Kenquest for four years. Plus she was on call as a teachers substitute aid for eight years. She has spent most of her life helping and teaching children and adults with quiet, resolute, dignity. Joy has done great service for the Grayling community and I just thought somebody should say so. I am very proud of her. Daniel Reid (-27/9)

11. Automotive

1995 GMC TRUCK, 4 wheel drive, 8 foot box with plow. \$5,995. 989-344-7669 (-27-3/11)

FOR SALE- 2003 Chevrolet S10 extended cab truck, 4X4, ZR2, 31,000 miles, excellent condition, 6 CD changer with Bose speakers, \$15,700. Call 348-8712 after 6 p.m. (-27/11)

'94 CHEVY S10, 4.3 liter V6, engine replaced, well maintained, with cap, 2 winter tires, \$3,200.00 O.B.O. 989-344-2577. (-27-3/11)

CAN'T FIT THE CAR IN THE GARAGE? Sell those extra goodies quick with an ad in Avalanche For Sale Classifieds. (989) 348-6811

1996 CHEVY TAHOE 4X4, Burgundy, 4 door, excellent condition, 96,000 miles, CD player, \$8,500 (989)348-8741. (-6-13-20-27/11)

AUTO GLASS repair and replacement now available at JJ's Auto Glass. 348-7710 (1/6/05TF/11)

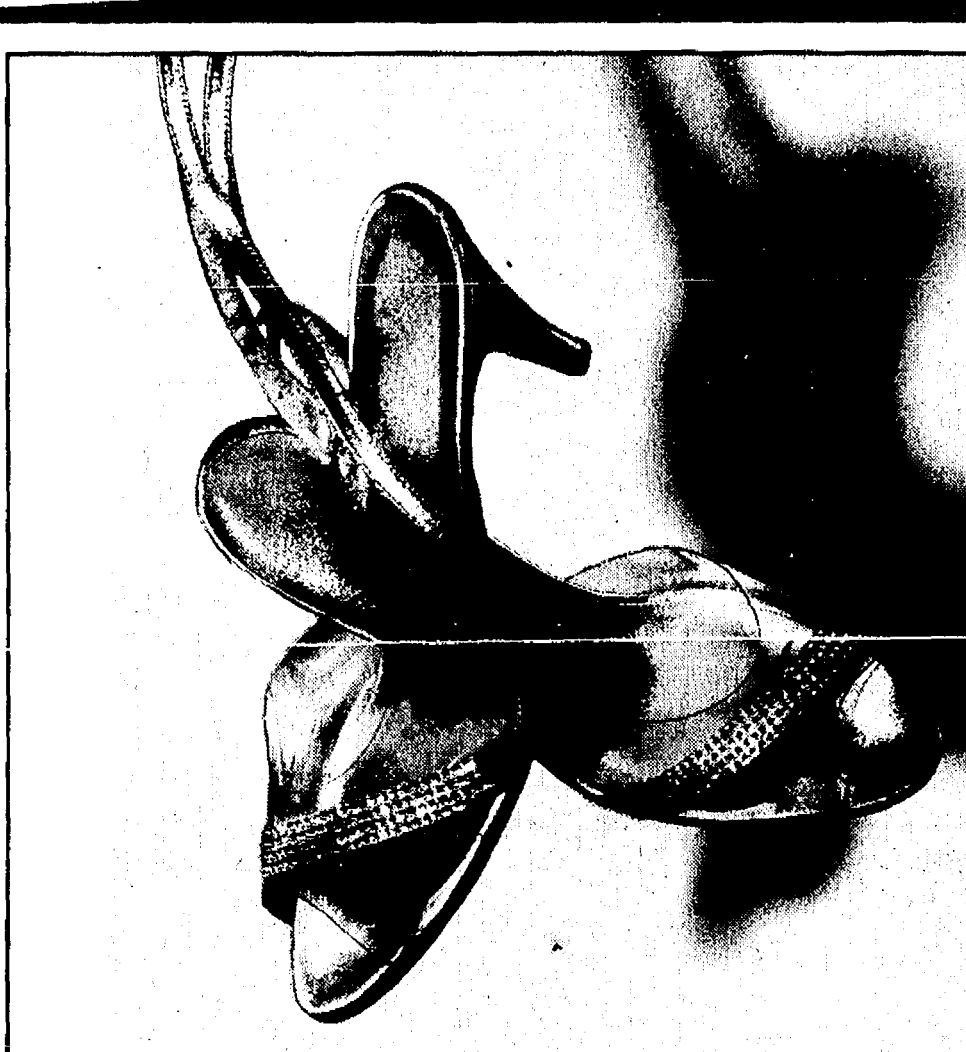
CAR DETAILING: Let JJ's Motor Mall make your vehicle sparkle, inside & out! 348-7710 (1/6/05TF/11)

1997 JEEP CHEROKEE Sport, 56,000 miles, loaded, newer tires, \$7200. Call Joe 348-2288. (-13-20-27/11)

1978 VOLVO 244, 60% restored, Needs head gasket and front struts. New struts still in box in trunk, best offer. 1989 Toyota extended cab. Runs good, but needs battery, body work, and T.L.C. Best offer. 348-2588 (-27/11)

ADVERTISING DEADLINES: Regular Display - 1/2 to full page, 5 p.m. Thursday, All others 5 p.m. Friday. Classified Display - 12 noon Monday, Classified by the word - 12 noon Tuesday. These deadlines may change with notice due to holidays or special publication. (989) 348-6811

STRUGGLING TO FIND



The perfect disco shoes!

YOU CAN BUY OR SELL ALMOST ANYTHING IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

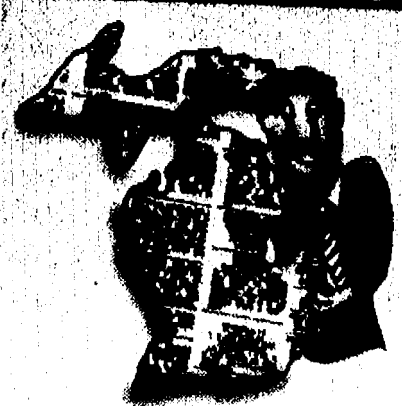
ADVERTISING CLASSIFIED

Minimum charge, \$5.00 for the first 15 words, 10¢ for each additional word. Please use as many words as you like, one word per box. Includes listing on the Avalanche Internet page.

Crawford County Avalanche 989-348-6811 • www.townnews.com/avalanche/

| Categories (Circle One) | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------|------------------|---------------|---------------------|-------------|-----------|------------------|------------------|--------------|------------------|
| 1. Real Estate | 2. For Rent | 2a. Want To Rent | 3. Employment | 4. Services Offered | 5. For Sale | 6. Wanted | 7. Miscellaneous | 8. Announcements | 9. Personals | 10. Garage Sales |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| \$5.00 | \$5.00 | \$5.00 | \$5.00 | \$5.00 | \$5.00 | \$5.00 | \$5.00 | \$5.00 | \$5.00 | \$5.00 |
| \$5.75 | \$5.75 | \$5.75 | \$5.75 | \$5.75 | \$5.75 | \$5.75 | \$5.75 | \$5.75 | \$5.75 | \$5.75 |
| \$6.50 | \$6.50 | \$6.50 | \$6.50 | \$6.50 | \$6.50 | \$6.50 | \$6.50 | \$6.50 | \$6.50 | \$6.50 |
| \$7.25 | \$7.25 | \$7.25 | \$7.25 | \$7.25 | \$7.25 | \$7.25 | \$7.25 | \$7.25 | \$7.25 | \$7.25 |
| \$8.00 | \$8.00 | \$8.00 | \$8.00 | \$8.00 | \$8.00 | \$8.00 | \$8.00 | \$8.00 | \$8.00 | \$8.00 |
| \$8.75 | \$8.75 | \$8.75 | \$8.75 | \$8.75 | \$8.75 | \$8.75 | \$8.75 | \$8.75 | \$8.75 | \$8.75 |
| \$9.50 | \$9.50 | \$9.50 | \$9.50 | \$9.50 | \$9.50 | \$9.50 | \$9.50 | \$9.50 | \$9.50 | \$9.50 |
| \$10.25 | \$10.25 | \$10.25 | \$10.25 | \$10.25 | \$10.25 | \$10.25 | \$10.25 | \$10.25 | \$10.25 | \$10.25 |

CLASSIFIEDS MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE BY TUESDAY NOON



MICH-CAN STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED

REAL ESTATE

ASHEVILLE, NC AREA. Spectacular Mountain view & River lots. Paved roads, clubhouse & more. New Release! Possible \$5K Discount! Bear River Community Call 1-866-411-5263

HURRICANE\$ AFFECT EVERYONE! Lumber price\$ are \$oaring! Save thousand\$ on display models and \$pecial order BOCA/Manufactured homes. Ranch, Cape Cod, Colonials. Modular Marketplace 1-888-393-7411

"MAKE NEXT SUMMER THE BEST" E Tennessee's Norris Lake & Golf properties will make every year special. Starting at only \$24,900- Call Lakeside Realty 4 2 3 - 6 2 6 - 5 8 2 0 www.Lakesiderealty-tn.com

FLORIDA, NAPLES. Live on the water! Your piece of paradise from Gulf to Golf. \$200k's to \$1,000,000+. Call Sue Myhelic Gulf Breeze RE 239-216-6444.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

\$\$\$AS SEEN ON TV. Cash now for your future Settlement payments. Annuity payments, Lottery payments. www.ppicash.com Don't wait for your \$\$\$ Call 1-800-509-1607 Now!

****ALL MORTGAGE LOANS**** Refinance & use your home's equity for any purpose: Land

Contract & Mortgage Payoffs, Home Improvements, Debt Consolidation, Property Taxes. Cash available for Good, Bad, or Ugly Credit! 1-800-246-8100 Anytime! United Mortgage Services. www.umsmortgage.com

DR. DANIELS AND SON LOANS MONEY ON REAL ESTATE AND BUYS LAND CONTRACTS. Private Money, \$10,000 to \$500,000, Fast Cash, Deal Directly with Decision Maker. 1-800-837-6166, 1-248-335-6166 allan@drdanielsand-son.com

FINANCES GOT YOU DOWN on Dating? Get Cash Fast!!! \$100-\$500. Funds Deposited-Checking Account Next Day. 1-800-710-3400 www.instantcashusa.com

EMPLOYMENT

ADVANCE YOUR DRIVING CAREER! Increase in Pay Package. Contractors & Company Needed. Flatbed - Refrigerated - Tanker. Over-the-Road. Some Regional. Commercial Driver's License Training. 1-800-771-6318.

www.primeinc.com

DRIVERS - ACCEPTING TRAINEES! CDL in 16 Days! No Money Down, Student Financing! Tuition Reimbursement Avail. Job Placement Asst. 1-800-883-0171 ext. A-16. www.deltacademy.com

DRIVERS - BEGIN THE YEAR with Family Owned Operation! Miles to 3000/wk plus Benefits & Late Model Equipment! Solo's Teams/Own Ops 23 w/CDL-A 1-877-613-6385 x286.

DRIVER - COVENANT TRANSPORT. Regional Runs Available. Home Weekly. Excellent Pay & Benefits. Exp. Drivers, O/O & Students Welcome. Equal Opportunity Employer. 888-MORE-PAY (1-888-667-3729).

DRIVERS NEEDED - NO EXPERIENCE necessary. \$650 - \$850 per week. Great benefits. pdi4cdl.com 1-800-339-9812

EDITOR Resort Weekly Editor Wanted. We are looking for an experienced weekly editor. If you've got the right stuff in your writing, reporting and editing, we want to

talk to you. We offer a competitive benefit package, competitive wages and a chance to work on a multi-award winning Northern Michigan resort town weekly newspaper. If you've got the right stuff, submit a resume to: Ken Winter, Publisher, c/o Charlevoix Courier, P.O. Box 117, Charlevoix, MI 49720. Application deadline is February 11, 2005.

GREAT VIRGINIA TEACH-IN 2005 -- Virginia's Teacher Recruitment Job Fair. Over 100 school districts represented! Greater Richmond Convention Center (March 5, 2005). Call toll-free (866) 79-TEACH or visit www.doe.virginia.gov.

HELP WANTED: Get a weekly listing of newspaper positions available in Michigan. To subscribe, send an e-mail to: bulletin@michiganpress.org

HUGE PAY INCREASE For Company Drivers! Start from 40 to 42 cpm with an assigned conventional you can take home! Running OTR, you're home every 14 days! We offer full benefits including choice of medical plans, prescription discount, vision, dental, 401k retirement and more! Qualify for monthly bonuses & add an extra 2 cpm to your already outstanding pay! This is the job you had in mind when you resolved to earn more in 2005! Call us 7 days a week at 1-800-2JB-HUNT (800-252-4868) Must have 3 mos exp and hold a Michigan class A CDL. EOE. Subj to d/s.

NATIONAL CARRIERS: Opportunities singles and teams, high mileage, good pay. Teams additional 2 cents. Leases available on 48 state, Regional, Dedicated. Lease purchase available. Call 888-707-7729 nationalcarriers.com

YOU CAN HAVE EVERYTHING! Get home this weekend and get a pay raise! \$.44/mile. Run Regional/1 Year OTR experience required. Heartland Express 1-800-441-4953 www.heartlandexpress.com

ADOPTION - Young,

ADOPTION

happy, married couple wishes to provide healthy, financially secure, loving home to a newborn. Expenses paid. Call Michele & Ted toll free 1-866-519-6458. #1 CASH COW!! 90

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITES

vending machines in 30 locations - \$10,670. Call now! 1-800-836-3464

ALL CASH CANDY ROUTE. Do you earn up to \$800/day? Your own local candy route. Includes 30 machines and Candy. All for \$9,995. Call 1-800-814-6472.

BUILDING SALE... "Rock

FOR SALE

Bottom Prices! Final Clearance. Beat Next Price Increase. Go direct/save. 20x26. 25x30. 30x40. 35x50. 40x60. 45x90. 50x100. 60x180. Others. Pioneer 1-800-668-5422.

FREE 4 - ROOM DIRECT TV SYSTEM Includes standard installation. 3 Months Free HBO & Cinemax! Access to over 225 channels! Limited time offer. S&H. Restrictions Apply. 1-800-474-4959

SAWMILLS -\$2,695.00 - LumberMate-2000 & LumberLite-24. Norwood Industries also manufactures utility ATV attachments, log skidders, portable board edgers and forestry equipment. www.norwoodindustries.com -Free information: 1-800-578-1363 ext300N PLACE YOUR

SERVICES

STATEWIDE AD HERE! \$299 buys a 25-word classified ad offering over 1.6 million circulation and 4.2 million readers. Plus your ad will be placed on Michigan Press Association's website. Contact this newspaper for details.

REACH 3.5 MILLION Michigan readers with a 2 x 2 display ad for only \$999 - Contact this newspaper for details.

We Will Beat Any Deal To Keep Your Business In Town!



Salesperson: Eric Isaacsen
Customer: Valerie Kochiss

Why I bought from Scheer Motors...

"Eric made car buying easy. He worked with my schedule and helped me find the most vehicle for my money."
-Valerie Kochiss



"Your Hometown Dealer"

Hours - Mon. : 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Tues. - Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. * Sat 9-2 * U.S. 27 NORTH * Grayling
www.scheermotors.com
CALL TODAY! * 989-348-5451

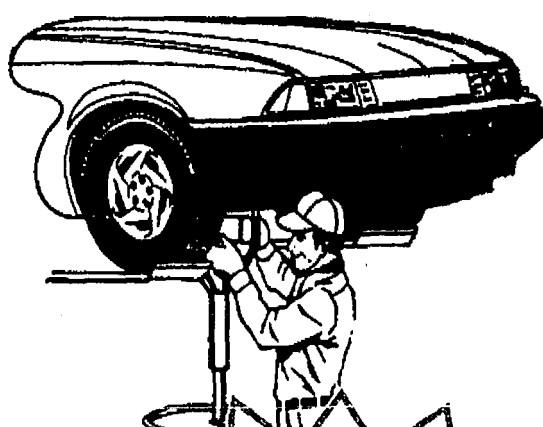
OIL CHANGE IN 29 MINUTES OR LESS OR THE NEXT ONE IS FREE!

- Oil change (up to five quarts of oil)
- Oil filter
- Chassis lube
- Fluid level checks
- Brakes - differential transfer case - transmission - windshield washer
- 25-point inspection
- No Appointment Necessary

- Competitive Up-Front Pricing
- Limited Lifetime Guarantee on Parts & Labor
- Courtesy Transportation

Goodwrench
**SCHEER
MOTORS**

US-27 North, Grayling • 989-348-5451



AS LOW AS
\$24.95

We accept:
Visa • Mastercard • Discover
American Express
Hours: Mon 7:30 am - 6:00 pm
Tues - Fri 7:30 am - 5:30 pm
Sat 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

* Price & 29 minute guarantee apply to GM & Chrysler vehicles only, diesels extra.

SEE DEALER FOR GUARANTEE DETAILS

Indoor USED Vehicle Sale!

Saturday ~ January 29th • 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

NO CREDIT!
BAD CREDIT!
Guaranteed Credit
Approval

ONE
DAY
ONLY

Choose from over 100
Used Cars & Trucks!

- GREAT selection of minivans!
- Sport Utility Vehicles from the BIG 3!
- Luxury cars & sports cars also available!
- Used diesel 4x4 trucks in stock!
- Over 20 Vehicles Only \$150 per month with just tax down

We will display them
inside where it's WARM!



Scott McNamara
FORD - MERCURY
OF GRAYLING

Grayling • I-75 Business Loop
989-348-3242
800-348-5583

*On approved credit through certain lenders. See dealer for details. * 0% on select new vehicles

ATTENTION

SNOWMOBILERS & SKIERS

3RD ANNUAL

RIDE-IN FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS

SATURDAY January 29

11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
at
Skyline Ski & Country Club

Enter to win
Golf Pkgs., Ski Pkgs.,
dinner and more

\$5.00 donation
to Special
Olympics get a
Burger & Fries
for \$1.99

Come meet
the Wertz
Warriors

Skyline
SKI & COUNTRY CLUB

4020 Skyline Rd. • Grayling
(989) 275-2000

KIRTLAND BASKETBALL

Women's Team

ROSCOMMON - Casey Burrows led Kirtland's Lady Firebirds in scoring with 17 points in their 79-70 win over the Alpena Lumberjacks Saturday, January 22, in Roscommon.

Only a few points separated the teams for most of the game, until the final minutes when the Firebirds simply outplayed their rivals.

"We played Firebird defense tonight," said Kirtland coach Teresa Stuck. "There was a balanced scoring attack, with five people in double figures, which came off of 40 forced turnovers."

The win is likely to blow a little wind in the sails of the Firebirds as it ended their four-game in-conference losing streak which has dropped them to eighth in Michigan's Eastern Conference.

"This was a game we felt we had to win and it was good to see the team rise to the challenge for 40 full minutes," Stuck said.

It was a great game for Burrows.

"She finally found her stroke tonight, but it was only after rebounding and playing defense," Stuck said.

Kenzie Steward added 15 points for Kirtland, while Nynne Larsen contributed 14 and Felon Harris put in 13 points.

"She's becoming a real leader out there and taking care of the basketball," Stuck said about

Harris, who is a Kirtland freshman, coming to Roscommon from Toronto.

Amanda Cooper netted 10 points while playing through a couple injuries suffered in the Firebirds' tough contest against Mott Community College three days before.

The win pushed the Lady Firebirds' record to 2-5 in the Eastern Conference and 5-15 overall, while Alpena fell to 3-4 (2-12 overall).

ROSCOMMON - Despite Amanda Cooper sailing in six three-point shots and a total of 22 points for the Kirtland Lady Firebirds, they still took a 91-67 loss to the Eastern Conference's second-place team, Mott Community College on Wednesday, January 19, in Roscommon.

Trailing only by 7 at the half, the Firebirds turned in a gritty performance, despite the final score.

"We gave the best team in the conference a run for their money for 34 minutes," said Firebirds coach Teresa Stuck. "We just need to learn to win. As a young team, we played them down to the wire, but then cracked under the pressure and turned the ball over too much when it mattered."

Cooper's performance stood out despite the loss.

"She gave an all-out effort and really played smart," Stuck said about the sophomore from

Harris. "Her teammates really did a nice job too of recognizing she was not offensively. They got her open and got her the ball. I am proud of the team for recognizing that without forcing things - we are definitely getting smarter."

For the Firebirds, Kenzie Steward added 12 points and 6 rebounds, while Nynne Larsen netted 10 points and 3 steals.

"Felon Harris took very good care of the basketball for us, with 7 points, 5 assists and 3 steal," Stuck added, noting that Meghan Bastian had 7 rebounds and that Ashley Andrews stepped up her game.

"I am proud of how we have played in the last couple games," Stuck said. "If we keep playing that hard, the tide is bound to turn. We are learning more every game and soon that's going to turn to a victory."

Men's Team

ROSCOMMON - The Firebirds' Bernard Daniels fired in 30 points for the Kirtland Community College men's basketball team Wednesday, January 19, in Roscommon but it wasn't enough for the win as Kirtland took a 90-75 loss to the Eastern Conference leader, Mott Community College.

Kirtland's conference record now stands at 3-2 (13-6 overall), while Mott remains undefeated at 5-0.

It was a disappointing loss for

the Firebirds, who may have stood a better chance of keeping up with Mott if they'd been at full strength, but with two lead players sitting the bench, there was barely time for the Firebirds to breathe.

Frank Washington added 11 points for the Firebirds and Craig Ash netted 9.

PORT HURON - Kirtland Community College's Craig Ash, a 6'8" freshman from Pontiac Northern, even impressed his coach with his performance on the basketball court Saturday when the Firebirds took to the road and garnered an 86-80 overtime win against St. Clair County Community College.

Ash's sky-high total of 28 rebounds, plus 18 points and 8 blocked shots had coach Glen Donahue using terms such as "incredible" and "amazing."

"The pros don't even turn in numbers like that," Donahue said about Ash who was dealing with injuries during part of this season.

Adding to Ash's stellar performance Saturday were David Allison and Frank Washington sinking 17 points apiece for Kirtland, Adam Reese with 15 and Bernard Daniels with 12.

This was Kirtland's third overtime win in their last five games.

"The game showed great effort by everybody," Donahue said. "Everybody played a key role."

BOWLING LEAGUE

American Men's League

GADCO 24 - 4
Moore's Automotive . . 16 - 12
Canfield's Snowplowing .16 - 12
Scheer Motors 15 - 13
Gray-Rock Cafe 15 - 13
Fenton's Auto 12 - 16
McLeans Ace 9 - 19
A.E.I. 5 - 23
High Series: D. Canfield, 600;
Larry Davis, 571; Lance Davis,

569.

High Game: S. Peterson, 214;
Lonnie Davis, Lance Davis and
J. Robideau, 212.

Recreation League

Coldwell Banker 14 - 6
American Legion 13 - 7
Glen's Market 13 - 7
Woody Girls 11 - 9
Hawk Ridge Golf. 9.5 - 10.5
Gr. Nursing Center 9 - 11

Mickey Perez CPA ... 7.5 - 12.5
Peterson Saw Service ... 3 - 17
High Series: P. D'Amour, 521; L. Dellar, 501; K. Moshier, 495.
High Game: B. Wheeler, 189; P. D'Amour and K. Laughton, 187.

Pioneer League

Chemical Bank 11 - 5
McDonald's 10 - 6
Custom Interior 9 - 7
AJD Forest Product 8 - 8
Grayling Chiro.Clinic 8 - 8
Grayling Restaurant 8 - 8
South Side River Rats ... 6 - 10
Rochette's 4 - 12
High Series: J. Coors, 549; J. Cousins, 505; M. Rock, 495.
High Game: J. Coors, 207; K. Moshier, 190; C. Jones, 176.

Senior Bowling

Flowers By Josie 51 - 21
Stitches By Sue 43 - 29
Grayling Pharmacy 39 - 33
Kicking Grass 35 - 37
Sylvester's Sports ... 35 - 37
Bear's Den Pizza ... 34 - 38
Spike's Keg O' Nails ... 30 - 42
Lone Pine Restaurant . 21 - 51
High Series Men: K. Harris, 564;

H. Ingram, 514; B. Hollis, 513.
High Game Men: B. Hollis, 213;
K. Harris, 202; D. Campbell, 196.

High Series Women: C. Clark, 517; M. Rysso, 488; D. Brantley, 445.

High Game Women: C. Clark, 192; M. Rysso, 172; D. Brantley, 155.

Friday Mixed Doubles

Moshier Auto Repair 12 - 4
American Legion 10 - 6
Double Trouble 10 - 6
IMM. 7 - 9
Lucky & Laura. 5 - 11
4.F.I. 4 - 12
High Series Men: D. Wallace, 595; C. Hanson, 559; P. Lewis, 538.
High Game Men: D. Wallace, 219; C. Hanson, 218; P. Lewis, 215.
High Series Women: S. Johnson 493, S. France, 478; M. Moshier, 472.
High Game Women: M. Moshier and S. Johnson, 187; S. France, 170.

POOL LEAGUE

Women's Standings

Holiday Inn 125
Frederic Inn 124

Growlers Pub 109
Legion 102
Sawmill 104
5 Ball Run: Christy (Sawmill),
Melonie (Holiday Inn).

Men's Standings

Two Track Inn #1 38
Legion 37
Frederic Inn 28
Growlers Pub 27
Sawmill #1 25
Riverside 21
Sawmill #2 20
Two Track Inn #2 11
Lords of the Table - 8 Ball Run:
Weasel (Frederic Inn). Won all 6
games: Kevin and Mark (Two
Track Inn). 8 Ball Run: Jeff B
(Legion).

We Can Save You Money

When you insure both your home & car with us, we'll save you money with our special multi-policy discounts.

Call
Jansen Insurance Agency
today.

JANSEN
AGENCY & ASSOC., INC.
PO Box 472, 2370 S. I-75 Bus. Loop,
Grayling, Michigan
348-6711

Hastings Mutual Insurance Company
We're only there when you need us.

Bingo

Sunday - 1:30 pm
Grayling Eagles Auxiliary #3465

Thursday - 6:30 pm
American Legion Hall
Post 106 - Grayling

GM OWNER LOYALTY

\$1500 Additional Rebate On All New & Used Trucks

2005 GMC Sierra Pick-Up As low as \$13,311

2005 GMC Envoy As low as \$299.89/mo. 0 Down

2005 GMC Canyon Crew Cab 4x4 As low as \$279 mo. 0 Down

2005 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX Power Seats, PW/PL, Tilt, Cruise, AM/FM Stereo, Remote Entry and Car Starter #T4341

2005 BUICK LACROSS CX Power Seats, PW/PL, Tilt, Cruise, AM/FM Stereo CD, Remote Entry #8467

2005 GMC SIERRA SLE EXT. CAB 4X4 271 Power Seats, PW/PL, Tilt, Cruise, Polished Wheels, AM/FM Stereo CD, HD Trailer Towing, Remote Entry #8402

2005 GMC ENVY SLE AX4 Power Windows, Locks, Tilt, Cruise, AM/FM Stereo, CD, Chrome Wheels, Trailer Towing, Remote Entry #8318

Rebates up to \$2,000

Rebates up to \$3,500

Rebates up to \$4,000

Rebates up to \$4,000

SALE PRICE GM DISCOUNT PRICE

SALE PRICE GM DISCOUNT PRICE

SALE PRICE GM DISCOUNT PRICE

SALE PRICE GM DISCOUNT PRICE

CARS

2004 BUICK CENTURY \$13,988
2004 BUICK CENTURY 4DR \$13,988
V-6, 2.4L, Cruise, Power Seats & Low Miles, Factory Warranty.
2003 PONTIAC VIBE WAGON \$12,888
Automatic, Power Sunroof, Low Miles, Loaded.
2003 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX GT 4DR \$15,788
Power Sunroof, Leather, Very Loaded, Low Miles
2003 PONTIAC SUNFIRE 4DR \$9,988
Automatic, Air, TR, Cruise, CD Player, Very Low Miles, Great Gas Mileage
2003 PONTIAC BONNEVILLE SSI \$19,888
Leather Chrome 17" Wheels, Very Low Miles, One Owner
2003 PONTIAC BONNEVILLE SLE 4DR \$19,888
Power Sunroof, Leather, Disc Player, 17" Chrome Wheels, Low Miles
2003 PONTIAC GRAND AM GT 4DR \$13,988
V-6, Power Sunroof, Loaded.
2003 CHEVY CAVALIER LS 4DR SEDAN \$9,988
TR, Cruise, Air, Disc, Keyless Remote, Low Miles, Great Gas Mileage
2003 PONTIAC GRAND AM SE 4DR \$11,988
TR, TR, Cruise, Power Locks, CD, Low Miles
2002 BUICK PARK AVENUE 4DR \$18,988
Power Sunroof, Leather, Disc Player, Loaded
2002 PONTIAC BONNEVILLE SSI 4DR \$18,988
Power Sunroof, Leather, Disc Player, Loaded
2002 SATURN SC 4DR \$7,988
CD, Automatic, Air, TR, Cruise, Power Windows, Low Miles, Great Gas Mileage
2002 CHEVY PRIZM LE \$8,988
Power Sunroof, Leather, Disc Player, Loaded
2002 PONTIAC GRAND AM SE 4DR \$10,988
Power Sunroof, Air, TR, Cruise, Disc, OT Wheels, Low Miles, Great Gas Mileage
2002 PONTIAC GRAND AM GT 4DR \$10,988
V-6, Air, TR, Cruise, Disc, Automatic, Power Windows, Low Miles
2002 OLDS INTRIGUE 4DR GX \$11,988
V-6, Automatic, Power Windows, Disc, Low Miles
2002 PONTIAC BONNEVILLE SLE 4DR \$18,988
Power Moon, Leather, Really Low Miles
2001 PONTIAC GRAND AM GT 4DR \$9,988
V-6, Leather, Power Sunroof, Low Miles
2001 PONTIAC GRAND AM GT 4DR SE \$7,988
Automatic, Air, TR, Cruise, CD, Low Miles

TRUCKS

2001 SATURN SC1 3DR \$4,988
Air, 3 Speed, CD, Cassette, Great Gas Mileage!
2001 PONTIAC GRAND AM GT COUPE \$10,988
Very Clean, Power Sun Roof, V-6, Stereo, Low Miles
1999 NISSAN MAXIMA 4DR SE \$7,888
Power Roof, Leather, Loaded, One Owner
1997 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX SE 4DR \$3,988
V-6, Automatic, Air, TR, Cruise, Good Gas Mileage

2003 BUICK RENDEZVOUS 4DR \$16,988
One Owner, Low Miles, TR, Cruise, CD, Air, V-6, Sharp
2003 PONTIAC AZTEK \$13,988
Rack, Power Sunroof, Power Seats, CD Player, 16" Wheels, Sharp
2002 CHEVY SILVERADO LT EXT. HD2500 CAB 4X4 \$19,988
Leather, Loaded, Really Low Miles, Real Bargain
2002 CHEVY K2500HD 4X4 SILVERADO LS CREWCAB \$24,888
V-8, 2.8L SLE 1200, One Owner
2002 CHEVY 4DR 4X4 TRAILBLAZER LS \$18,988
Trailer Towing, Disc Player, 8 Dr., Low O. Goodies, Low Miles
2002 GMC SONOMA CREW CAB 4X4 \$16,988
V-6, TR, Cruise, Air, Full Power, Great Deal
2002 GMC SONOMA CREW CAB 4X4 \$14,988
V-6, Automatic, Power Windows, Disc, One Owner
2002 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER 4DR LT \$18,988
3.5 V-6, CR, Air, TR, Cruise, Power Windows, Power Locks, Low Miles
2001 GMC SIERRA EXT CAB 4X4 PICKUP \$18,988
V-8, CR, CR, Air, TR, Cruise, Power Windows, Power Locks, Low Miles
2001 GMC SIERRA EXT CAB 4X4 4DR \$14,988
V-8, CR, CR, Air, TR, Cruise, Power Windows, Power Locks, Low Miles
2001 GMC YUKON 4DR \$22,888
Leather, CD, 4 Speakers, BLT Package, New Tires, Sharp
2001 GMC SIERRA EXT CAB 4X4 \$21,988
BLE HD, 2500, 24" Tires, Loaded, 8 V-6, Low Miles
2000 CHEVY SILVERADO EXT. CAB PU. 4X4 \$12,988
CD, Air, Air, TR, Cruise, Air, 1998 High Miles
2000 GMC SIERRA EXT CAB 4X4 8LT \$17,988
Sporadic, Leather, CD, 5.3 V-8, Sharp
1999 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER 4DR 4X4 LB \$8,988
V-6, Low Miles, CD, Air, Much More

1998 DODGE W150 4X4 EXT CAB 8LT \$12,988
Automatic, V-6, TR, Cruise, Cassette, Much More, One Owner
1999 CHEVY S10 TRAILBLAZER LS 4DR 4X4 \$8,988
Air, TR, Cruise, CD, Really Good Deal, Good Miles
1999 CHEVY TAHOE LS 4DR 4X4 \$11,888
Really Sharp, 5.7 V-8, Four Glass Running Boards, Good Miles
1999 CHEVY SILVERADO LT EXT CAB 4X4 \$12,988
Automatic, Power Sunroof, Low Miles
1999 DODGE W 150 4X4 \$5,988
Over, 4th, Great Price As Is
1999 GMC JIMMY 4DR 4X4 SLE \$6,888
Leather, CD, Cruise, Air, 1998
1999 CHEVY 1500 WT 4X4 \$5,888
Auto, High Miles, Great Price

VANS

2002 PONTIAC MONTANA EXT 4DR \$15,988
Low Miles, Side Load, 2.0D Power, Power Door, Loaded, Low Miles
2002 PONTIAC MONTANA 4DR \$14,988
Regular Wheelbase, V-6, Quad Cupper Chair, CD, TR, Cruise, Power Seat, Low Miles
2002 PONTIAC MONTANA 4DR \$14,988
CD & Cassette, Power Door, Loaded, Low Miles
2001 PONTIAC MONTANA EXT 4DR \$10,988
Low Miles, Power Door, CD, TR, Cruise, Air, Power Windows, Power Locks, Power Seats, Sharp
V-6, Great gas Mileage, 7 Passenger, CD
1999 PLYMOUTH GRAND VOYAGER EXPRESS 4DR \$9,988
What A Good Deal, Great Miles
1998 OLDS SILHOUETTE 4DR EXT WAGON \$7,988
V-6, Great gas Mileage, 7 Passenger, CD
1995 FORD WINDSTAR VAN \$4,988
Auto, Air, V-6, Fully Loaded, Low Miles

Come in and see Bill & Tim Hart, Greg Trombley - Finance, and their friendly sales staff: Mai Galinski - New Car Manager
- Rick Harland - Used Car Manager, John Walsh, Dave Lucas, Kim Noel, Jim Smrekar, Roger Voorhees,
Jim Pageau, Brian Schnell at the all new HART Pontiac • GMC • Buick, Inc. in West Branch!

3433 W. M-55 • West Branch • East of I-75 • Exit 215
989-345-2571 • 1-800-341-HART(4278)



Bridal Planning Guide

A special publication by the *Crawford County Avalanche* 2005



Michaywé
Golf - Dining - Living
Showers, Rehearsal Dinner, or
Receptions for up to
150 special guests

*Your special occasion personally
created and custom detailed for you.*

Michaywé
1535 Opal Lake Road • Gaylord MI 49735
989-939-8800 • www.michaywe.com

Celebration Floral
For Your Special Day

Fresh & Silk Bridal Bouquet
Church & Reception Flowers
Occasion Flowers
Limousine Rental

We have a budget!
See you at the Wedding Show
in Houghton, MI, Jan. 28, 2005
Open 9:30-5:00 PM
704 S. State St., Houghton, MI
989-275-4555 • 989-275-4555

**The Place To
Be For You...**

Bridal Shower • Wedding • Wedding Reception

We Have:

- A beautiful outdoor gazebo for picture taking or Wedding
- Large facility seating 300
- 2 smaller facilities with seating for 30-100
- Kitchen area available

SMOKE FREE ENVIRONMENT
We are available 7 days and nights a week
For something special & romantic,
use our new gazebo for a beautiful outdoor wedding.

C.R.A.F. Center
In The Village Square
606 Lake Street • Roscommon, MI 48653
(989) 275-4975
www.crafcenter.com

Cheers! Tips on how to give a wedding toast

by Tresa Erickson

Congratulations. You've been asked to be the best man at your brother's wedding. You're honored and look forward to almost all of your duties, except for making the first toast at the wedding reception. You don't have a way with words and you definitely don't like speaking in public. The last time you gave a speech was 10 years ago in your college speech class. Relax. Making a toast is not as hard as you might think. Just follow these tips and you're sure to do well.

Although it might be more to your liking, standing up and mumbling, "Congratulations," just won't do. Your toast should be at least three to four minutes long, so you're definitely going to have to put some thought into it. Most toasts generally consist of four parts: a purpose, a thank you, a personal story or two, and the toast itself. The first and second parts are easy. All you need to do is introduce yourself, explain your relationship to

the groom, indicate that you are there to offer your congratulations to the couple and thank the wedding hosts. The third part is a bit trickier. You will need to get more personal and tell a story or two that reveals something about the couple. Once you get through this phase, the fourth part is a breeze. You simply wrap up the toast by offering your congratulations and best wishes to the couple.

Now that you are more familiar with the basic parts of a toast, you can start to compose yours. Try to keep what you have to say brief but meaningful. There's nothing worse than listening to a 20-minute speech full of insignificant ramblings. Use examples to back up your remarks. Don't just say, "The couple is great together," and leave it at that. Tell a story that illustrates how well suited the two are for each other. Be specific and keep your audience in mind. Identify the woman you keep referring to as the groom's aunt and steer

clear of inside jokes. Not everyone will be privy to them. Keep the tone of your toast light and refrain from saying anything negative. Don't kid around and call the groom "a slob." Negative remarks, no matter if they are said in jest or not, are not a good way to commemorate a wedding day.

Once you've written your toast, invite a friend over and deliver it to them. Get their feedback and take their suggestions seriously. Make any revisions necessary and then practice it often. Practice in front of the mirror and in front of your friends and family. Use note cards if you need them, and if people seem to have a hard time hearing you, see if you can have a microphone available at the reception.

Making a toast doesn't have to be a mind-rattling event. With careful deliberation and practice, you can make a toast that everyone will appreciate and remember for years to come.

The crowning touch: a veil

by Tresa Erickson

You searched far and wide for days on end, and you finally found it—your dream dress, the wedding gown that makes you feel like Cinderella. You selected your shoes, jewelry and other accessories, and now you're looking for that one final piece of your ensemble—the veil.

These days veils come in all lengths and styles. You can find shoulder, elbow, fingertip, chapel and cathedral-length veils with headpieces ranging in style from simple white headbands to jewel-encrusted tiaras. The choice is yours, and as long as you make your selection with care, you're sure to look stunning on your wedding day.

Here are some tips for finding just the right veil.

First, study the style of your wedding dress and choose a veil that complements it. If your dress is ivory and covered in pearls, for example, you

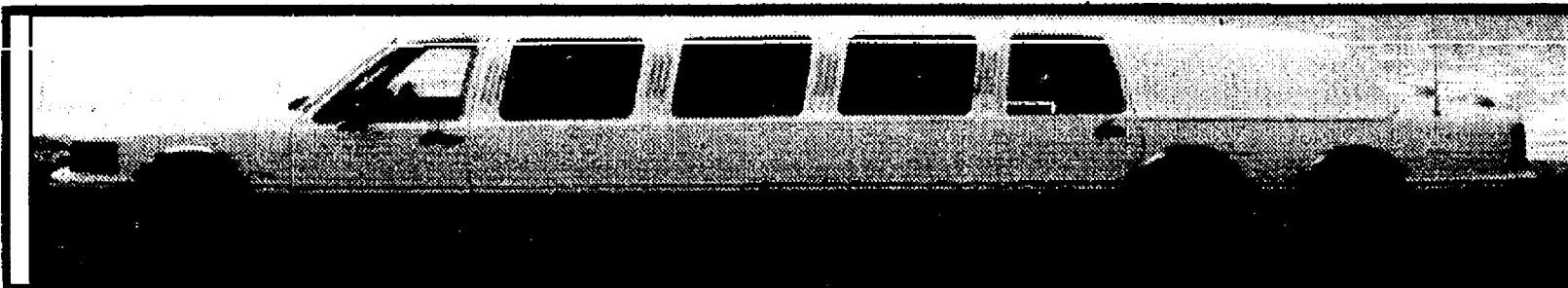
should choose an ivory veil with pearls. The veil should also complement the overall feel of the dress. Pairing an antique, beaded gown with a veil scattered with rhinestones and topped with a shiny silver tiara is not a good idea. Not only will the antique style of the dress clash with the modern style of the veil, but because the two pieces are so elaborate and ornate, they may compete with each other.

In addition to the style of your dress, you should also consider your size when selecting a veil. Long, flowing veils can overwhelm petite brides, while short, sleek ones can make tall brides look even taller. The length and design of the veil should accentuate your features. If you have a slim waist, you should choose a shorter veil that will show it off, whereas if you have a thick waist, you may want a longer veil that will disguise it.

You should also take your hairstyle into consideration when choosing a veil. If you have long hair and plan to wear it down, you should buy a longer veil, perhaps even one that's detachable, so you can remove it from the headpiece at the reception when you're dancing. If you're going to wear your hair up, you can go for a shorter veil.

The type of ceremony you are having should also play a role in your selection process. Shoulder- and fingertip-length veils will work for formal and semiformal weddings, while cathedral-length veils are usually reserved for very formal weddings. Chapel-length veils are also typically used more in formal weddings.

The trick to choosing the right veil is to try on as many as possible with your wedding dress. Look at yourself from every angle, making sure the veil complements the style of your dress, accentuates your features, will work with your hairstyle and reflects the type of ceremony you're having. If you can't find a veil that works for you, don't despair. You can always have one made. Many brides today take this option and add personal touches to their veils by having family heirlooms and jewels incorporated into the headpiece.



**Terry's
Limo Service**
348-7513

**Celebrate
in style...**

Village Bridal & Formal, LLC
Providing all of your wedding needs
Gowns, Tuxes, Bridesmaids, Mothers & Prom

Located at 241 E Federal Hwy in Roscommon,
3 miles east of exit 244
989-275-4555
www.villagebridal.com



BLOOMIN' GRAPE
Vineyard • Winery • Distillery

Pell, Wine & Gourmet Food Market

**CATERING
FOR
SHOWERS
RECEPTIONS
PARTIES**

Make your next catered
affair a gourmet
masterpiece.
From a very simple affair
to a reception.

305 S. JAMES STREET
GRAYLING
989-344-2221

Bridal registries reflect our casual lifestyles

(ARA) - Brides building their bridal registries today are thinking twice about china cabinet classics, turning instead to home items in which the luxury is a bit more casual.

"Five-piece place settings are for my mother's generation," says new bride Julie Mathers, 31. "We wanted gifts that would work with our lifestyle and help make our home more inviting and luxurious - and luxury for me is a home where my husband and I can escape from the world."

Like many brides, Mathers is finding her own definition of luxury in home décor items that she says are embraceable, such as handmade pottery serving pieces and Egyptian cotton bath towels. Absent from her registry were more formal items including fine china, sterling flatware and silver serving dishes.

"Silver is fine for some people, but we wanted gifts we knew we would use," says the North Carolina native.

And since Mathers and her fiancé had separate homes before they married - today's average bride is 27 and her groom is 29 - they already had many of the essential items needed to set up a household. They used their bridal registry to embellish their home, asking for patio furniture and a gas grill for casual entertaining and choosing high-end linens and towels and an oversized showerhead to

make their bathroom a home spa.

"Bridal registries are becoming less utilitarian and more personalized," says Leslie Gillock from Wamsutta home fashions, which recently launched wamsuttabridal.com to help brides organize their bridal registry thoughts. "Brides are still using registries to outfit their kitchens and build their linen closets, but they're also adding an eclectic mix of home décor items that are fun, functional and luxurious."

That's the case for bride-to-be Lani Britten. "How often would I use fine china? In my lifestyle, it's impractical, and my taste will probably change over the years," says the 28-year-old South Florida bride. "I will put luxury in my bedroom though," says Britten, who registered for high-thread count, 100 percent cotton sheets, a silk comforter and even a bedskirt and throw pillows. "Nice sheets will never go out of style," she says. "Plus, they're something my fiancé and I can both enjoy."

Along with hopes of possibly getting her first set of Court of Versailles 500-Thread Count sheets, Britten is excited about adding soft chenille rugs, a spa bath pillow and a CD player to her home - items she defines as indulgent yet practical. They will allow her to create the bedroom retreat she's always imagined.

And since Britten and her fiancé

like to entertain, they're hoping their bridal registry will allow them to add finishing decorating touches to their home with artwork, outdoor games and barbecue tools.

"We want a nice home, but we want it to be comfortable for us and welcoming to our friends," she says. "Some day, we may decide we need fine china, but right now, our lifestyle is casual, and our luxuries unpretentious."

Bridal Registry Tips

Keep these guidelines in mind when creating a bridal registry:

- Select items from two categories: What you really need - such as utensils and dishes - and what you really want - such as that set of indulgent Court of Versailles 500-Thread Count sheets.

- Give gift givers choices: Men might like to buy their buddies a gas grill from a Wal-Mart, and girlfriends will enjoy the decorative selections at home stores such as Linens'n Things and Bed Bath and Beyond.

- Stock Up: You'll want at least eight to 12 dinnerware place settings and utensils, three sets of sheets for the master bedroom and enough towels for you and your first guests.

- Check Up: Review your registries periodically to take off items that you've already received and add new items as you better plan your new home.

(Courtesy of ARA Content)

A circle of love: choosing rings

by Tresa Erickson

Wedding rings have been a cornerstone of wedding ceremonies since ancient Egyptian times. Every year, thousands of couples around the world slip them onto each other's fingers as a pledge of their eternal love. In just a few short months, you will be joining the ranks and slipping a circle of love onto your fiancé's finger, but first you must find the perfect ring.

The time has finally come for you to choose a wedding ring for your fiancé. Think just any old ring will do? Think again. With the wide range of styles now available, your fiancé might just want something different than the traditional gold band.

Few couples today purchase matching wedding rings. Many go for rings that complement each other in color or shape but have their own unique design. The styles of wedding rings for men extend beyond the plain gold band. Walk into any jewelry store and you'll find textured bands, two-toned bands, diamond bands and more. The choices are endless.

Men's wedding rings generally

come in three shapes: flat, half round with a flat interior and a rounded exterior, and comfort fit with a rounded interior and any exterior. The width of the ring also varies, ranging from four to seven millimeters. Finishes include gold, silver, platinum and more. Some rings even feature two-tone finishes. Gold bands with platinum edges, for example, are popular. Many rings also come with diamonds. One popular style has burnished diamonds scattered around the band and set flush with it, while another features a channel of diamonds encircling the band.

With such a large variety of rings to choose from, you may have trouble choosing one for your fiancé. Try to keep his personality and preferences in mind. If he works outdoors and tends not to wear jewelry, you may want to select something simple like a plain platinum band, whereas if he works indoors and wears jewelry, you might go for something a little more intricate. Don't forget about his activities. Some styles tend to wear better than others. Men who are avid rock climbers will not fare well with textured or diamond bands. Not only will dirt get trapped into the crevices of a textured band, but one nasty blow to a diamond band might loosen or crack the stones.

To know for certain what kind of ring your fiancé would like, take him with you and let him pick it out. That way, you'll ensure he's getting something he'll wear. Then once the wedding is over, all you'll have to worry about is reminding him to take it off when he's doing dirty work and occasionally snatching it from him to clean it.

D.J.'s
Free Wheelin' & Company
50's & 60's Rock-N-Roll
Country - Old & New
Music For All Occasions

Fred & Becky Hinkle
541 Pembroke
Grayling, MI 49738

Home (989) 348-5348
Work (989) 348-5451

The Glass Slipper

- Prom & Homecoming Formals
- Wedding Gifts & Invitations
- Two Tuxedo Lines
Bunny & After Hours
- Jewelry
- Bridesmaid
Cruisewear
- Wedding Gowns
- In Store
Accessories



Special
Now thru
February

Put 50% down
when ordering
your bridal gown
& receive \$50
off any decorating
package
*New orders
only

"The Perfect Day" A full service store for your wedding & all occasion decorating & coordinating

Located in Downtown Victorian West Branch

321 W. Houghton Ave.
Open 10-5:30 Monday-Friday • 9-5 Saturday • Special hours by appointment only
(989) 345-4125

Michaels On The River

Full Service Catering
For Your Special Day

Choose from:
Value Menu

Classic Menu or Premiere Menu
which includes China and Silver
for up to 200 people.

Set-up and Clean-up included

Call 989-821-6530

Located 1136 E. Higgins Lake Dr. • Rockwood

Wedding Dress Cleaning & Preservation

We pride ourselves on our ability
to clean & preserve your
wedding dress, veil, flower girl dress,
etc. right at our cleaners.

Preservation is ~
Cleaned & placed in an Acid Free Capsule.

Gift Certificates Available

RIVERLAND
DRYCLEANING

Open 6 Days: Mon. - Fri. 10 am - 6 pm • Sat. 10 am - 5 pm
122 Mich. Ave. • Grayling
(989) 344-0047

A Wedding to Remember

We'll help you make your wedding as special as you want it to be. Come in and see our elegant invitations and announcements, beautiful bridal books, napkins and other accessories to make your wedding day complete.



403 Peninsular Ave., Grayling, MI
989-344-9077 • Fax: 989-344-9938
e-mail: copyshop@i2k.net



And we have what you need for a beautiful wedding party!



Dance Floors
Tent Accessories
White Wedding Tents
White Wedding Chairs



Plant Stands
Candelabras
Wishing Well
Kneeling Bench
Wedding Arches
Grills
Helium Tanks & Balloons

989-731-9988 **Pro Source Rent/All, Inc.** 989-732-4822

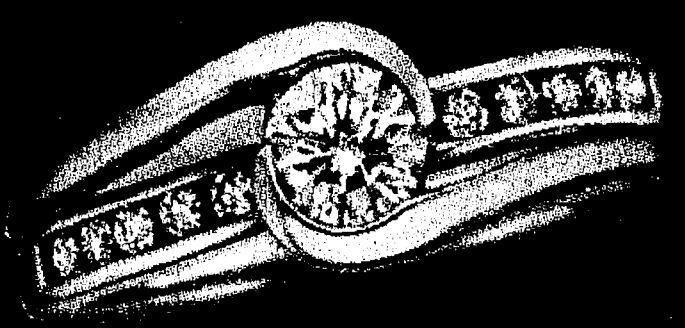
3725 Old 27 South, Gaylord, MI 49735



variety of
 styles and 3
 great companies to
 choose from. Please
 call for an appointment.



PRO SOURCE RENTAL
 118 Michigan Ave.
 Grayling
 989-348-4011




Getting Engaged?

The wedding ring is a symbol of love and commitment. It is a precious piece of jewelry that is worn for the rest of your life. At Davis, we have a wide selection of wedding rings to choose from. We have rings for every budget and every style. We also have financing programs to help you pay for your ring over time.

Davis

Uptown Grayling 1-800-686-4367



Let us do all the work!

Weddings ~ Receptions ~ Conferences

- ♥ Rehearsal Dinners
- ♥ Bridal Showers
- ♥ On-site catering
- ♥ Bridal Suite with Jacuzzi
- ♥ Banquet room for 300 people
- ♥ For wedding consultations please call our sales office.

Holiday Inn
 2650 S I-75 Business Loop
 Grayling, MI 49738
 (989) 348-7611 ~ (800) 292-9055



Flowers by Josie

125 N. Otsego
 Gaylord
 989-732-5288

Martin Van Til
 Certified Master Designer
 Wedding Consultant

212 Michigan Ave.
 Grayling
 989-348-4006

Debbie Bass
 Certified Master Designer
Loree & Brian
 Wedding Consultant